FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

26 JULY 1983

PLO Affairs

[illegible] Clashes — Fatah loyalists and dissidents resumed fig[illegible] the Al-Biqa' valley on the evening of 25 July after a lull during the day, according to Beirut radio. Voice of Lebanon radio said Syrian tanks assisted the dissidents by shelling the loyalists, while a Fatah loyalist spokesman cited by Radio Monte Carlo said the Syrians intervened to maintain the cease-fire. The dissidents made a limited advance into the town of Jdita, northwest of Shtawrah, in the face of strong resistance from loyalist forces, Radio Monte Carlo reported.

Political Developments — The PLO Executive Committee has decided to convene the Palestine Central Council in the near future to enable Palestinian institutions to play their full role during the present "exceptional circumstances," the committee announced at the end of its recent meetings in Tunis in a statement broadcast by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio. After studying PLO-Syrian relations and the internal Palestinian situation in light of the report submitted by the special committee headed by PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum, the Executive Committee decided to ask Al-Fahum's committee to continue its mediation efforts. The Executive Committee also reaffirmed the importance of preserving independent Palestinian decision-making, stressed the need for restoring normal relations with Syria, and called on Palestinian information organs to adhere to a "constructive" stand, the statement noted. Meanwhile, PNC Speaker al-Fahum returned to Damascus from the Soviet Union in order to resume talks with the Fatah dissidents and Syrian leaders, KUNA reported. Al-Fahum also issued invitations to the 80 Palestine Central Council members to meet in Tunis on 30 July, KUNA added. Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, discussed the current Palestinian situation with Saudi King Fahd in At-Ta'if, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported.

Lebanon

Military, Security Situation — Two explosions believed to have been caused by Katyusha rockets occurred in Sidon near the Israeli military governor's headquarters, Jerusalem Radio reported. According to Beirut Radio, one rocket fell near the university and the other landed near the Israeli military headquarters. An Israeli spokesman cited by AFP confirmed the incidents and stated that no casualties or damages had been reported. The army surrounded the area, the spokesman added. Meanwhile, Israeli army convoys withdrew south from the Al-Biqa' valley and the Ash-Shuf area, according to Beirut Radio. No official announcement linking this withdrawal with the planned redeployment has been made, the radio said. The report also asserted that the IDF is setting up fortifications and bunkers south of the Al-'Awwali River.

In another development, two special emissaries from Walid Junblatt's Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) arrived in Israel and stated that the IDF has become more sympathetic toward the Druze in the Ash-Shuf area, a senior source in the Israeli Druze community cited by IDF Radio claimed.

Deteriorating UNIFIL-IDF relations — A UNIFIL spokesman rejected accusations that UNIFIL soldiers are collaborating with the PLO, hindering IDF movements, or gathering information on IDF posts in Lebanon, Jerusalem radio reported. Israeli security sources told the radio that "too many incidents" have occurred for the IDF to regard them as errors.

Political Developments — President Amin al-Jumayyil denounced the newly formed National Salvation Front, calling it an "airborne opposition carried on board a Syrian Army helicopter," Voice of Lebanon radio reported. In remarks made after a meeting with French President Francois Mitterrand, Al-Jumayyil claimed that 99 percent of the Lebanese people support the government and insisted that the Lebanese Army can ensure security for the Ash-Shuf area after the Israeli withdrawal. He also repeated his call for a UN referendum in the zones now occupied by Syria and Israel.

Meanwhile, the Phalangist forces Command Council asked the Lebanese Army commander in chief to issue a warrant for the arrest of Walid Junblatt after his public admission that PSP artillery bombarded Beirut airport, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon said.

In remarks broadcast by Beirut radio after his visit to the United States, Foreign Minister Elie Salim praised the U.S. commitment to the Lebanon and expressed hope for the new presidential envoy Robert McFarlane, calling August a month of "intense diplomatic activity." Salim reiterated Lebanon's commitment to the total withdrawal of foreign forces.

Israel

A Knesset member who returned from the USSR 25 July reported a Soviet official's warning that the USSR will intervene if Israel tries to attack Syria or the new missiles there, according to Jerusalem radio

Syria

Reacting to reports that President Reagan will visit the Middle East shortly, a 26 July *Tishrin* editorial reviewed by Damascus radio asserted that Reagan will seek to personally supervise the next step of the "plot" and give life to the Reagan plan. Earlier, a radio commentary on McFarlane's appointment as Reagan's personal Middle East envoy said there is little hope U.S. policy will be better in the future than it was during Philip Habib's time. Meanwhile, in a *Tishrin* article reported by Radio Monte Carlo, Culture Minister Najah al-'Attar accused Lebanese President al-Jumayyil of "conspiring with the United States" to take military action against the Syrian forces in Lebanon. She said the Lebanese Army might fight the Syrians in a war engineered by the Phalangists. Al-'Attar also warned Israel that Tel Aviv is within range of the smallest Syrian artillery and that Israel's losses will be high in the event of a Syrian-Israeli war.

Iran-Iraq War

Iranian forces have achieved most major goals of their offensive in northern Iraq and are continuing to defend captured positions, collect captured supplies, and mop up Iraqi resistance, an Iranian military communique broadcast by Tehran radio announced on 25 July. The Iranians repulsed several Iraqi counterattacks, destroying an enemy commando brigade, the communique added. Iran has captured about 200 square km of territory, 200 Iraqi soldiers, and 20 tanks during the current offensive, according to related IRNA reports.

An Iraqi military communique carried by INA said Iraqi forces attacked enemy positions in the area, killing more than 700 Iranians. The Iraqi Air Force continued "fierce and intensive" raids on Iranian targets and troop concentrations, the communique stated.

Iran

Pilgrimage Dispute — The Central Council of Friday Imams denounced Saudi measures to prevent Iranian pilgrims from visiting Mecca, calling the measure part of "an Israeli plot" to conquer Mecca and Medina and to prevent Muslims from making their holy pilgrimage, Tehran radio reported. In a message to Islamic information ministers broadcast by Tehran radio, Islamic Guidance Minister Mohammad Khatami claimed the Saudi measures are politically inspired, because of links with the United States and Israel, and trample on "humanitarian and Islamic principles." The Saudi regime is afraid that Iranian participation in the pilgrimage will result in the "faster awakening" of the Saudi people.

Opposition Organization Statement — In a statement carried by the clandestine Radio Iran, the newly formed 14 Mordad Movement urged the Iranian people to support their aims of overthrowing Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni's regime and to establish national rule.

Afghanistan

"Counterrevolutionary elements" detonated a bomb in a Kabul restaurant, wounding six people, Kabul radio reported.

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'Arafat Leaves Tunis; Visits Saudi Arabia

Meets With King Fahd

JN251632 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] today met with Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The meeting dealt with the latest developments in the current situation in the Palestinian, Arab, and international arenas. Brother Abu 'Ammar arrived in Saudi Arabia today from Tunis.

Before leaving Tunis, Brother Abu 'Ammar met with French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson. The talks dealt with the developments in the Palestinian issue.

'Arafat, Fahd Attend Reception

LD260123 Riyadh SPA in English 1908 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] At-Ta'if, Saudi Arabia, July 25, SPA — HM King Fahd tonight attended a grand public reception set by people of this summer resort to express their loyalty and love to the leader of their country.

The Saudi monarch was accompanied by second Deputy Premier and Defence Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The reception was attended by chairman of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation's Chairman Yasir 'Arafat who arrived here earlier today for talks with King Fahd and Saudi leaders on Arab and Palestinian developments.

'Arafat Denies Agreement With Husayn on Reagan Plan

LD260944 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0854 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] Tunis, 26 Jul (KUNA) — In an interview on Italian television last night, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat denied that he had agreed with King Husayn of Jordan to consider President Ronald Reagan's initiative as a good basis for a solution of the Middle East crisis. He said: I have reached no such agreement at all, because King Husayn and I are bound by the Arab plan for solving the Palestinian question, which was adopted at the Fez Arab summit conference.

In reply to a question, 'Arafat said: "The Reagan plan differs completely from the Arab plan adopted at Fez, and the two plans cannot be considered complementary to each other in any way whatsoever." 'Arafat criticized the rigid U.S. attitude toward recognition of the Palestine people's right to self-determination. He said: "I cannot understand how can the American people accept such a thing when the United States was founded on the basis of the right to self-determination. The comic-tragic thing," he said, "is that while the United States vehemently supports the right to self-determination for the 1,800 people in the Falklands, it denies this right to 5 million Palestinians."

Asked why the PLO persists in refusing to recognize the Zionist entity as a means for starting a dialogue with the United States that may lead to a solution of the Middle East crisis, 'Arafat said: "Why do you ask us to recognize Israel and you do not ask Israel to implement the UN resolutions on the rights of the Palestinians, particularly as Israel is the only country in the world that was created by a UN resolution."

In reply to another question, 'Arafat denied any connection between the PLO and the Italian Red Brigades terrorist organization. He said: "I challenge anyone to produce any proof about the existence of such a relationship."

PLO Executive Committee Issues Statement

JN251744 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1635 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee today issued the following statement at the end of its recent meetings in Tunis:

During the Executive Committee meetings, under the chairmanship of Brother Abu 'Ammar, the Palestinian situation inside and outside the occupied land was discussed. It decided to form delegations to attend several international conferences and occasions. It also discussed the current contacts with Syria. The situation in Lebanonas well as several political issues were also discussed. The Executive Committee arrived at the following results:

First, the Executive Committee notes the heroic stand of our masses inside the occupied land in defending the revolution and rallying around the PLO and its leadership, as expressed by various popular and political moves throughout our occupied land.

Second, the Zionist enemy is currently carrying out more than one expulsion and settlement conspiracy in Hebron, and against its valiant masses who stand united and firm to protect the city from this fascist aggression by the Zionist army and the gangs of settlers. The Executive Committee calls upon our people and all our institutions and bodies to express their solidarity with valiant Hebron. It appeals to all sectors of world public opinion to condemn these methods and the imperialist-Zionist schemes. The Executive Committee hopes that the Arab governments and peoples will take the initiative in adopting all measures to protect Hebron against this criminal scheme which is aimed against its inhabitants, holy shrines, and its Arab land.

Third, the Executive Committee hails the heroic struggle against the Israeli occupation in Lebanon which is embodied by the Palestinian-Lebanese comrades in arms who continue the joint struggle to liberate Lebanon from Zionist occupation, guarantee the unity of its land and people, preserve its Arabism, and to foil the U.S.-Zionist agreement which is imposed on Lebanon. The Executive Committee studied the conditions of our Palestinian people in Lebanon, particularly with regard to the various aggressions which are being committed by some Lebanese organs and fascist gangs against our masses and camps. The Executive Committee considers such criminal acts as part of the aims of the Zionist enemy and the agreement which has been imposed on Lebanon.

The Executive Committee will adopt all practical measures to confront these measures which are being implemented at the hands of the Zionist enemy and its agents. The Executive Committee affirms that it will continue to adhere to the provisions of Arab and international agreements to safeguard the rights of our people in Lebanon, and to guarantee the operations of the PLO offices and institutions in other Arab countries — an agreement which was reached with the previous Lebanese Government.

Fourth, the Executive Committee studied the developments in the Palestinian-Syrian relations and the internal Palestinian situation in light of the report submitted by the six-member committee on the meeting to discuss the results of its first round of contacts. In light of its study of this issue, the Executive Committee decided to ask the six-member committee to continue its efforts with the concerned parties to achieve the aims which were outlined by the Executive Committee on the basis of the PNC resolutions. It affirms that the preservation of the national independent Palestinian decisionmaking, and the affirmation of role of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of our Palestinian people are the principal guarantees to protect our people's achievements and their continued struggle. Also, it stresses the need for restoring normal relations with Syria in the service of common struggle and pan-Arab aims. In view of this, and despite all the regrettable problems in the past stage, the Executive Committee believes that the protection of the national Arab line is a central aim which must rise above any secondary differences and contradictions. Therefore, the Executive Committee decided to call on all Palestinian information organs to adhere to a constructive information stand. The Executive Committee is the only party authorized to express the PLO's political position.

Fifth, the Executive Committee decided, on the basis of PNC resolutions, to call for the convocation of the Palestinian Central Council in the very near future to enable the Palestinian institutions and bodies to play their full role, particularly during these exceptional circumstances of our national sturggle and the region at large.

The Executive Committee also discussed several special organizational, administrative, and financial issues.

Palestinian Mediation Meeting Planned for Tunis

LD251749 Kuwait KUNA in English 1600 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Damascus, July 25 (KUNA) — The six-member committee headed by president of the Palestinian National Council Khalid al-Fahum, met here Monday to prepare for its second round of talks with dissident Fatah leaders and the Syrian side, led by Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam for sorting out current differences, it was reported here. Al-Fahum, who arrived Monday from a visit to the Soviet Union, plans to start [word indistinct] contacts aimed at mediating the present rift within the Fatah movement and PLO-Syrian differences. PNC sources stated that immediately on arrival from Moscow, Fahum presided Monday over a meeting of the mediation committee, set up by the PLO Executive Committee, to review its action plan for the fresh mediation talks with dissident Fatah leaders and the Syrian side.

During an earlier assignment here, the six-member mediation committee has been able to arrange a three-week fragile ceasefire between pro and anti-'Arafat Palestinian fighters in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' valley. The ceasefire, however, collapsed last Sunday when clashes were renewed between the feuding factions in Sa'd Nayil village in the Al-Biqa' in which two persons were killed.

The PLO official spokesman and member of the mediation committee, 'Abd al-Muhsin (Abu Mayzar), called Monday for an immediate halt of armed clashes within the movement and appealed for renunciation of fratricide and resort to arms in settling disputes by both factions. Abu Mayzar urged all fighters stationed in the Al-Biqa' and northern Lebanon to direct their guns only at the Israeli enemy and to stand alongside the Syrian forces to confront the American-Israeli assault and to foil the Lebanese-Israeli accord on foreign troops withdrawal.

Meanwhile, the PNC sources stated that Fahum Monday sent out invitations to the eighty members of the Palestinian Central Council, a body midway between the PNC and the PLO Executive Committee, to attend meetings to be held in Tunis next Saturday. The meeting of the Central Council was called for by the PLO Executive Committee during a recent meeting in Tunis. Abu Mayzar denied that increasing the number of Central Council members from 65 to 80 has any political implications, and added that the increase was meant to allow representation of all sectors of the Palestinian people on the council.

PLO's 'Abd Rabbuh Terms PNC Meeting 'Unlikely'

LD251159 Kuwait KUNA in English 1019 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Tunis, July 25 (KUNA) — A ranking Palestinian official Monday ruled out the likelihood of an extraordinary session for the Palestine National Council (PNC) or the creation of Palestinian government-in-exile. Member of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Executive Committee Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, talking to KUNA, dismissed as rumors and "maybe maneuvers as part of what can figuratively be termed cold war" reports that the PNC — a parliament in exile — was to hold an extraordinary session. He said there was no reason the PNC should convene, since most resolutions of the last session in Algiers in February have not been implemented yet.

The PLO official was apparently reacting to statements by opponents of PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat within the Al-Fatah mainstream command group that they reject alleged calls by the 'Arafat wing for a PNC session to resolve the dispute between the two sides. 'Abd Rabbuh further explained that the mere call for a PNC meeting "is in itself skepticism about the whole legitimacy of the PLO."

Responding to a question, the official dismissed reports about a possible Palestinian government-in-exile and said "the PLO has already made clear that the Arab and international conditions do not allow the PLO to form such a government." 'Abd Rabbuh said reports on a PNC session and a government-in-exile were being deliberately circulated by some quarters to serve a certain end. He did not elaborate, but labeled such reports as "gossip". Asked if he was optimistic about a Syrian-Palestinian reconciliation, he said in politics there is no room for optimism or otherwise; "rather there are realities and circumstances that govern developments." He described the PLO decision to halt all kinds of hostile media campaigns as a positive step "which would help calm rage down." The decision was reached following a meeting here earlier in the week by the PLO Executive Committee ending a war of words between the Palestinian leadership and Syria which 'Arafat accused of supporting his opposers.

Quoting the Executive Committee's final statement issued Sunday,'Abd Rabbush stressed that "the Palestinian revolution is deeply interested in maintaining its special relations with Syria." He said he believed Syria has no interest in antagonizing the revolution "especially [illegible] the Syrian brothers and ourselves are in the same front-line trench confronting the Zionist enemy." He voiced the conviction that the Syrian-Palestinian relations will eventually restore normalcy "because the current strain runs counter to relations that should exist."

PLO's Salah Khalaf Interviewed on Syria, Rift

LD242121 Budapest Domestic Television Service in Hungarian 1700 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Interview with Salah Khalaf — identified by his nom de querre Abu Iyad and as 'Arafat's deputy — by Lajos Chrudinak; date and place of interview not given — Khalaf's answers recorded in Arabic with superimposed Hungarian translation]

[Text [Chrudinak] You say that the United States, Israel,and Jordan are taking advantage of the conflicts between Syria and the Palestinians. But if you, (?yourself) and the Syrian leaders also know this, then why do you not settle your affairs? For the conflict within the Fatah has lasted 3 months already, while the Syrian-Palestinian conflicts began more than 10 years ago. Why do you not end the (?argument)?

[Khalaf] Look, we evaluate things in a way other than Syria does, particularly with respect to the matters of detail. But this would not be a problem in itself, because if we agree on the strategic questions then there may be differences of opinionon tactical questions.

[Chrudinak] But according to my knowledge, it was precisely Syria which before the Lebanese war pursued strategic cooperation with the Palestinian movement. If I understand correctly, 'Arafat somehow always avoided strategic cooperation with Syria, for (?he said) he wanted to maintain his own independence of decisionmaking and his freedom of diplomatic maneuver.

[Khalaf] Look what happened. It is difficult. It was I who carried out the negotiations with Syria.

[Chrudinak] Yes, I know.

[Khalaf] About strategic cooperation.

[Chrudinak] This is why I am asking you.

[Khalaf][Passage indistinct] Now the most important question is: What is the kind of strategy on which we and the Syrians have to agree? (?and not only in the basic questions) What have we achieved together, (?tell me)? We have not been able to liberate even a foot of land, [words indistinct] and we have achieved political successes, nothing else.

[Chrudinak] Do you mean by this that the Syrian regime opposes these negotiations, these diplomatic initiatives, the political solution?

[Khalaf] Look, (?Syria is not in the UN resolutions). Syria does not accept the political solution. [passage indistinct] And in this we agree. However, the Syrians deem the political efforts meaningless. On this we do not agree. [words indistinct] It is impossible for Syria to totally abandon political means. This is impossible.

[Chrudinak] Do you believe, particularly since 'Arafat has been removed from Syria, that President al-Asad wants to overthrow 'Arafat?

[Khalaf] I do not believe that President al-Asad got as far as to wanting to overthrow 'Arafat. He knows full well that it is not so simple because (?like other Arab leaders) Palestinian leaders can be overthrown only by Palestinians.

[Chrudinak] In the last few days, 'Arafat has said that the argument in effect is not between the Palestinians; that the discord is caused not by the conflicts within Fatah, but is fanned from the outside. And by this he was accusing Syria and Libya.

[Khalaf] We do not have insoluble problems. On the contrary. The Syrian-Palestinian discord can be solved. Even the conflicts between President al-Asad and 'Arafat can be solved as well.

[Chrudinak] Yes, but how? Who is going to make concessions?

[Khalaf] I do not believe that either of them will have to make concessions. There would be a need for mutual understanding. Despite what has happened, 'Arafat has not reached the stage of breaking with Syria. Differences of views and rivalries are, unfortunately, frequent in the Arab world. It is the fault of almost all of us here that we are often more partial than necessary. This exaggerated sense of subjectivism frequently leads to political storms. If we hear a few good words, our hearts open up and we say what is on our minds. Some unpleasant remarks can cause extremely serious political arguments, even on occasions when trivial matters are in dispute, and these are blown up by our own exaggerated subjectivism. For this reason I do not believe that the current dispute can lead to a break except, of course, if Syria wants a break.

[Chrudinak] Does it want this?

[Khalaf] This would not be in Syria's interests because if a blow is dealt against the Palestinian movement, Syria then becomes the next victim. And this is also the case, vice versa.

[Chrudinak] In your view, the dispute within Fatah is not significant. In any case, what is the disagreement about?

[Khalaf] We agree that an organizational reform must be carried out, and that the soldiers who committed offenses in the Lebanese war must be punished. All of us agree on this. However, we reject the rebels' political demands. The rebels repudiate, for instance, the Fes decisions, the Soviet peace plan, and the state confederation to be established with Jordan, even though more than 1 million Palestinians live in Jordan. More than half of Jordan's population consists of Palestinians. The rebels also repudiate and attack the dialogue which we pursue with the democratic and progressive Israeli forces. In their view, everyone in Israel is a Zionist. This is simply a lie. It has nothing to do with truth or with reality.

[Chrudinak] The attempts at mediation have not yet been successful. Now Cuba and the USSR too are trying to iron out the differences. You have had several rounds of talks with Soviet leaders in Moscow in the past few weeks. Whose side does the USSR take in the dispute among you, and does it see a possibility for settling the crisis?

[Khalaf] The standpoint of the USSR and of the socialist countries that I have visited is very simple and clear. They support both Syria and the Palestinian movement. In other words, they call for the unity of Syria and the PLO. I highly appreciate this mediation. However, it is my conviction that only direct talks between us and the Syrians can bring results. The most important point is that this dialogue should come about. We are striving for this with all available means. However, I am certain that if one day Syria decides in favor of armed struggle, and if it opposes America's plans for the Middle East in a more determined way, it will then also need us and we will need it. If that happens, we will sit down for talks, despite the fact that certain groups — both among us and among the Syrians — attempt to thwart this.

[Chrudinak] It is also said that 'Arafat should be dismissed, and it is your name first and foremost that is then mentioned.

[Khalaf] People are kind.

[Chrudinak] It is said that you will be Yasir 'Arafat's successor.

[Khalaf] Look, my friend, this is not the kind of post for which anyone would envy 'Arafat, or one about which one could daydream. The post of PLO chairman is not so attractive as to make anyone desire it. So far as I am concerned, I do not aspire to that post either. In any case, it is up to the Palestinian people and their elected institutions to decide this matter. In other words, it is the duty of the Palestinian organizations to decide who should be the chairman — whether 'Arafat should remain or be replaced by someone else. It is for the PLO organizations and institutions to decide this. I personally am by no means interested in this post, because it is tiring and demands a great deal of time. 'Arafat, for example, has not gotten married because he has been in this post for 15 years.

[Chrudinak, laughing] Are you married?

[Khalaf] Yes, and I have four children. I have been able to give this post a wide berth!

[Chrudinak] We will see. Going back to Syrian-Palestinian relations, I can detect here a mutual lack of trust. The Syrians say of 'Arafat that he is bargaining with America and that he has accepted the Reagan plan. 'Arafat, on the other hand, is accusing Syria of dealing with the Americans. Almost identical charges are being leveled from both sides.

[Khalaf] These charges are true [words indistinct]

[Chrudinak] It is said in Damascus that 'Arafat is a traitor. But what has he betrayed and to whom? To the Americans? [word indistinct]

[Khalaf] These press reports are unfounded. After all, the Syrian regime and President Hafiz Al-Asad know well that 'Arafat is no traitor. However, those who charge Syria with betraying the Palestinian cause to America are also irresponsible. We must admit [word indistinct] and objectively that both the Palestinian movement and Syria make mistakes. However, we must bring these mistakes to an end. We must meet each other, hold a dialogue, and argue for hundreds and hundreds of hours at the table and not on the battlefield because we must reach an agreement.

Salah Khalaf-Led PLO Delegation in Europe

Meets With Hungarian Officials

LD251711 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1630 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Excerpt] A Palestinian delegation, headed by the deputy leader of the PLO in charge of international relations, has held talks in Hungary. Salah Khalaf met Miklos Ovari, Politburo member; and Gyula Horn, head of the Central Committee foreign affairs department. The Palestinian leader was also received by Janos Nagy, state secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Janos Kamara, state secretary at the Ministry of the Interior.

Talks With Bulgarian Leaders

JN251640 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], a Fatah Central Committee member, has arrived in Sofia, the Bulgarian capital, from Budapest after holding talks with Hungarian officials. The Palestinian News Agency said that Abu Iyad and his delegation had begun talks with Bulgarian officials on the developments in the situation in the Palestinian arena. It also said that the delegation's visit will last several days as part of a tour of the socialist bloc countries.

PFLP Leader Habash Interviewed on 'Arafat, Syria

AU251635 Sofia BTA in English 1354 GMT 25 Jul 83

["George Habash: Unity and Cohesion Needed" — BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, July 25 (BTA) — The present stage of development of the Palestinian revolution is very complex due to the stepping up of the imperialist aggression in the Middle East. The Palestinian revolution undergoes, too, a difficult time due to certain discord within the Palestine Liberation Organization, stressed

Mr George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, in an interview for *"Rabotnichesko Delo."* Mr Habash was recently on visit here as a guest of the Committee for Solidarity with the Peoples of Asia and Africa.

Along with this, Mr George Habash pointed out that, relying on the faith in the justice of their cause, under the guidance of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the Palestinian people will overcome all the difficulties and will be able to continue to deal blows to their arch enemies — imperialism and Zionism. Mr George Habash spoke further of the necessity of strengthening the political organization of the Palestine Liberation Organization in compliance with the strivings and demands of all the Palestinian people. He maintained that the crisis will be overcome soon, and then all the efforts will be concentrated on the strengthening of the relations with Syria because Syria is now the main base to be counted on in the struggle against the plans of American imperialism. "Along with the settling of our internal problems and the strengthening of our relations with Syria, we shall step up our political and armed struggle in the occupied territories", underlined the leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

Mr George Habash noted that one of the most important lessons for the Palestinian revolution, taught by the Israeli aggression against Lebanon, is the necessity of creating small guerilla detachments to act against the enemy. Along with this, the open Palestinian presence in the Al-Biqa' valley and north Lebanon should not be underestimated, too, where the Palestinian guns should continue their fire in order to defend the Palestinian people. "Because, along with guerilla action, we must show the worldwe wage an open struggle in Al-Biqa' and north Lebanon", he added.

Mr George Habash commented also on the question of coordination of the different detachments of the Palestinian resistance. Pointing out that at the present stage the major form of the armed struggle are the guerilla groups in particular, he said that all of them can unite. In the guerilla actions, each organization operates on its own. While in the open armed struggle in Al-Biqa' and north Lebanon, there is complete cooperation between them there. "The latest alarming developments in Al-Biqa' have impeded this coordination. We, however, will succeed in overcoming the difficulties soon, and will coordinate again our political and military actions", noted Mr Habash.

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, stressed Mr Habash, maintains that it will be correct for the guerilla actions to be led by the Lebanese national-patriotic movement. During the Palestinian presence in Beirut there was a joint leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization, led by Yasir 'Arafat. The conditions, however, have changed. A great part of Lebanon is occupied and the struggle for liberation of Lebanon is the primary task of the Lebanese national-patriotic movement. We should join with it our efforts and help it liberate its country. "We are putting our forces under the leadership of the Lebanese national-patriotic movement. About the Palestinian people who remained under the Israeli occupation, he said that the danger of new massacres, as those in Sabra and Chatila, has not passed.

Mr George Habash laid an emphasis on the danger of an Israeli attack against the Syrian troops in Al-Biqa', if the political and diplomatic pressure of the United States of America and Israel on the Palestine Liberation Organization and Syria don't yield the expected results.

In conclusion Mr Habash assessed the missions of Habib and Shultz in the Middle East as failures.

'Fierce' Al-Biqa' Clashes Resume Among Fatah

NC252008 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Clashes resumed violently in the Al-Biqa' between the groups of 'Arafat and Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha]at 1930. Our reporter has described the clashes as fierce, pointing out that tanks are being used. Our reporter said the clashes began in Jdita and Shtawrah and expanded at 2000 to include Kafr Zabad and Al-Fa'ur. The clashes later expanded to Ta'lbaya and Ta'nayil. Our reporter said these clashes were preceded by military preparations, including movements by vehicles belonging to Ahmad Jibril's group along the Ta'nayil Road. The reporter added that approximately 40 Syrian tanks entered the neighborhood of Ta'lbaya. It appears that these tanks are participating in the shelling against 'Arafat's group.

In his latest contact, our reporter said the clashes were continuing and Jdita is being subjected to violent artillery shelling by Abu Musa's group. He also reported that a fire broke out in Barr Ilyas, which has since been extinguished by the inhabitants.

Brief Cease-Fire Reported

NC251848 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Fighting in the Al-Biqa' stopped at 0830 this morning after the announcement of a cease-fire agreement. The 'Arafat loyalists advised civilians in Jdita to leave the area after most of his own men have done so. Palestinian dissidents claimed to have seized a food depot at Al-Fa'ur belonging to the Fatah organization, but reports during the day said that the depot was still under loyalists' control after Yasir 'Arafat's followers reinforced the position with rocket launchers.

During the night, there was a clash between Fatah forces and gunmen of the General Command of Ahmad Jibril, with the latter enjoying the support of the Syrians. The Fatah were reported to have captured two gunmen of the General Command and to have taken them to the [words indistinct].

A spokesman of the PLO Executive Committee has appealed to what he called brothers in arms in the Al-Biqa' to end their strife in the interest of the Palestinian people.

Today, there has been a precarious calm around Shtawrah after the fighting during the night, which appears to have caused three fatal casualties among the Palestinian dissidents and four other casualties, including one Fatah loyalist wounded. With a part of Jdita now under dissident control, the cease-fire went into effect at 1930 under the supervision of the leftists. Shops in Shtawrah are closed, and the international highway is almost devoid of traffic. Various Fatah sources have emphasized the destructive nature of the present struggle.

Dissidents Reportedly Receive Ultimatum

JN251126 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1100 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Clashes between the Fatah movement's forces and dissidents were resumed in Lebanon's Al-Biqa' last night and continued for over 6 hours. These clashes only stopped at 0400 GMT today, according to press correspondents in the area. Sporadic salvos of automatic machineguns were heard in the Shtawrah area this morning. Press correspondents said that the dissident forces advanced in some areas in the direction of the township of Jdita, northwest of Shtawrah.

A Fatah spokesman in Al-Biqa' said that last night's battles took place in the Sa'd Nayil area, east of Shtawrah on the Damascus-Beirut highway, and in Miskah in the west, and in Jdita. The spokesman added that the Fatah forces refused to shell the dissidents in Shtawrah to avoid the fall of victims among the inhabitants. These forces, he said, only shelled the heights overlooking the city.

The spokesman said that the Fatah forces have conveyed an ultimatum to the dissidents, via the Syrian Army and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, demanding that they evacuate Jdita before 1600 GMT today.

Rebels Enter Jdita

NC260925 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] Furious battles are taking place in the town of Jdita between the Abu Musa group, which entered the town, and the 'Arafat gunmen who are defending their positions. The Lebanese inhabitants of the town have deserted their homes due to the intensity of the fighting.

Our Al-Biqa' correspondent says there is street fighting inside the town between the Palestinian gunmen, while the Syrian forces have closed all roads leading to the areas of the clashes.

Source Refutes Rebel Claims

JN251628 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] In Al-Biqa', a responsible Palestinian military source has stated the following: The Syrian News Agency quoted a spokesman of the counterrevolution forces who are tied to the Syrian intelligence organs, as saying that their forces had controlled positions belonging to Fatah forces in Ta'nayil and Abu Khatir in Al-Biqa'. We would like to affirm that such reports are completely unfounded. Our fighters are still in their aforementioned positions standing fast and fighting in defense of the revolution and its independent Palestinian decisionmaking, against the ugly conspiracy which aims to divide and dismember the revolution.

More on Al-Biqa' Fighting

LD251121 Kuwait KUNA in English 1007 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Beirut, July 25 (KUNA) -- Tense calm prevailed Monday in the Al-Biqa' valley where supporters and opponents of Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat Sunday engaged in fierce fighting shattering a three-week lull and claiming the lives of two 'Arafat supporters. The four-hour exchanges of artillery were halted by Sunday noon,leaving several injuries among pro-'Arafat fighters of the main line group Al-Fatah and civilian residents of the area, according to reports reaching here. The two warring sides traded accusations blaming each other for starting the fire.

A spokesman for the Al-Fatah leadership said 'Arafat's supporters repulsed an attack by the movement's breakaways on one of their positions in Sa'd Nayil village. He denied at the same time reports that pro-'Arafat fighters lost an ammunition dump in the Al-Biqa'. The spokesman, however, explained that the dump was abandoned a month ago and was later seized by elements of the Libyan-backed Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC). The spokesman, furthermore, said the opponents, led by Col Sa'id Musa, were first to start the clash by opening fire at positions of 'Arafat's supporters, adding "we were ordered to open fire only in self-defense as to facilitate the ongoing reconciliation efforts."

Deputy commander of the Palestinian forces Khalil al-Wazir, in a statement at his base in the northern city of Tripoli, held Al-Fatah opponents responsible for the resumption of fighting which he said was aimed at "foiling a reconciliation initiative launched by the Arab League, Algeria, and Saudi Arabia to heal the rift between the Al-Fatah leadership and Syria." He added "those who arranged the bloody dispute between the Palestinians have no goal but serving the Zionist designs... But this will not deter us from continuing the march we have started to keep up the struggle against the Zionist enemy." Al-Wazir, better known as Abu Jihad, also stressed the Palestine Liberation Organization's determination to fight against "Zionist agents" in Lebanon and to keep the search for a settlement of the Syrian-Palestinian dispute.

Meanwhile, local reporters affirmed that the Syrian forces positioned in the Al-Biqa' did not participate in the fighting and kept their troops away from the scene of hostilities, but an unconfirmed report claimed that a Syrian soldier was killed in the clashes.

Meanwhile, in Damascus the anti-'Arafat wing of Al-Fatah rejected an earlier proposal by the PLO leader to hold an extraordinary session for the Palestine National Council (PNC) -- the equivalent to a parliament in exile - to resolve inter-Fatah differences. The breakaways, in an article published by their bi-weekly organ, said the PNC cannot settle their dispute with 'Arafat which erupted last May. "The PNC, by the nature of its make-up is unauthorized and unable to resolve any differences within any Palestinian organization," according to the *At-Ta'mim* newspaper. The 380-member PNC chaired by Khalid al-Fahum is the highest Palestinian policy drawing body.

'Arafat's opponents are still adamant that the Al-Fatah split should be discussed in a general congress of the movement of which 'Arafat is a co-founder. But 'Arafat has rebuffed the proposed congress, and earlier in the month dispatched a PLO mission led by PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum to Damascus in a bid to talk the dissidents into a compromise, but the team's efforts were fruitless. The opponents newspaper charged that 'Arafat's leadership advocates a PNC extraordinary session as to consolidate its position "on the top of the Palestinian pyramid."

BAHRAIN

AL-MAWAQIF Comments on Amir's Visit to U.S.

GF251447 Manama Al-Mawaqif in Arabic 25 Jul 83 p 3

[Editorial: "His Highness the Amir's Historic Visit to the United States and Its Positive Impact on the Prosperity of the Two Friendly Peoples"]

[Excerpts] The visit by his highness the amir, Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, to the United States received great attention by U.S. President Reagan and senior officials of the U.S. Administration. He was received with a warm welcome at the White House.

No doubt this welcome by the U.S. Administration was an expression and embodiment of the strong friendship between the United States and Bahrain, which is 50 years old and has never changed.

The amir's historic visit to the United States came within the framework of consolidating and strengthening bilateral relations between the two friendly countries in various political, economic, technological and defense fields and within efforts to find a peaceful solution to the explosive issues of the world in general and in the Gulf region and the Middle East in particular which have a negative effect on peace in the region and in the world in general.

No doubt the personal meeting between his highness the amir and President Reagan has its significance in resolving a number of bilateral issues, the solutions to which might be difficult through diplomatic channels. Some issues require some persuasion and exchange of views which might be impossible to do through ordinary means of communication. His highness the amir's meeting with the U.S. President will benefit the two friendly countries in consolidating their friendship in view of the principles of peaceful co-existence and peace in the world.

KUWAIT

Recently Approved Government Budget Summarized

LD241920 Kuwait KUNA in English 1614 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Text] Kuwait, July 24 (KUNA) — Kuwait's budget is a reflection of its economic, financial, social and cultural policies within the framework of a one-year governmental program.

The Kuwaiti budget constitutes a high percentage of the domestic production and the public revenues [word indistinct] the government's ability to achieve its financial and national objectives, while the public spending is, to a large extent, controlling the functioning of national economy with all its different fields.

The information and research department at KUWAIT NEWS AGENCY (KUNA) prepared a special report on the occasion of the recently approved budget. The report says that the Kuwaiti financial system is based on the budgets of each ministry in addition to the budgets of the National Assembly, Kuwait Municipality, the general board for the south and the Arab [word indistinct] Kuwait University and the Public Housing Authority, which practice distinguished activities and are not entirely independent.

The general budget also includes ten independent budgets of ten independent institutions including Kuwait Central Bank, Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, Credit and Savings Bank, Kuwait Airways Corporation, the General Administration [word indistinct] industrial area, KUWAIT NEWS AGENCY, General Institution for Social Security, Ports Public Authority, Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research and Kuwait Oil Corporation.

The budget was ratified by h.h. the amir last June 25 for the fiscal year 83-84 in which the revenues were estimated at KD 3,037 billion while the expenditures were expected to reach KD 3,376 billion.

In the economic and financial statement on the fiscal year 83-84, read by the finance and planning minister, 'Abd al-Lafit al-Hamad at the National Assembly last May, the minister expected that the budget deficit would continue for the few upcoming years.

Efforts are currently being exerted to bridge the gap between spendings and revenues. And a need for guiding the public spending has emerged with the aim of achieving the best economic and social results possible.

The guidance policy began as of the fiscal year 82-83 and is being effectively applied on the budget of 83-84 and the upcoming fiscal years.

This policy is likely to stipulate restriction on extending [word indistinct] services and re-evaluation of systems of public spending with the aim of eliminating former trends which proved to be valueless.

The improvement of the efficiency of the governmental administrations and the development of certain services necessitates that those services be transferred to the joint private-public sector while at the same time the equivalent governmental services should be reduced, the report said.

A diversification and increase of revenue sources should be introduced through comprehensive studies and research works on those resources, the report said.

It is not likely that the government would introduce any change on the 1.15 million B/D oil production ceiling in 1983 because the output policy in Kuwait is linked to the overall economic strategy of the country and the government had decided in 1981 to abide by that ceiling for the next four years, the report said. Nevertheless, maintaining that crude oil production ceiling is largely dependent on the situation at the international oil market during 1983 and the resolutions of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) on quotas of production for member states. [sentence as received]

It is also not likely that oil prices would increase this year in light of the prevailing situation at the international oil market marked by a fluctuation in demand and continuous increase of surpluses in addition to the deterioration in OPEC status at the international oil market and its inability to make changes on prices when inflation rises at the industrial states or when the U.S. dollar devalues, the report said.

The report added that despite the expected decline in the prices of Kuwaiti oil exports during 1983 by 13.3 percent compared to the prices last year, there are indications that a stable oil revenue would be at the same level of last year which reached KD 2700 million.

According to current estimates Kuwait oil proceeds will move up to 65 percent of public spending, the report predicted. The report said that the second source of revenue in Kuwait which is foreign investments, will substitute oil revenues as the main source of revenues, but it is subject to lots of fluctuations.

A non-oil internal sector should be built as a substitute and supplementary to the oil sector, the report said, adding this should be based on the diversification and expanding the productive and investment grounds in the industrial field through backing that sector and extending all kinds of support for investment in other sectors within a balanced plan which links between investments in all fields.

Protection is also needed to back the national industries to enable them to stand competition until they reach maturity stage but the continuous subsidy and protection are valueless burdens on the economy, the report noted.

The report called for the introduction of a just taxation law not only to increase the government declining revenues, but also to secure the participation of individuals.

The governmental spending is expected to continue its positive impact on the domestic liquidity during 1983, but at lower levels than that of 1982. According to 82-83 budget the general expenditures reached KD 3104 million while the budget for the fiscal year 83-84 is put at KD 3371.

It is expected that exports would decline by 2.2 percent while imports are likely to increase by 5 percent compared to the figures of last year, the report said.

The expected drop in 1983 trade balance is likely to reach KD 1.24 billion compared to 1.67 billion last year, it added.

The report noted that since 1981, government investments were re-classified with the capital account instead of listing foreign liquid assets in the reserve account.

According to the new classification, that account now comprisesall foreign investments and the future generations fund which is administered by the Ministry of Finance.

Kuwait is adopting an ideal policy in regard to international commitments, the report said, adding those commitments are national obligations, humanitarian assistance and activities of Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development. (?The fund) had succeeded in outlining the political and economic role of Kuwait. The fund, a successful investment institution, was able to realize an accumulated profit and the state will continue to honor all its international commitments in an organized manner, the report concluded.

Message Received From SFRY on Nonaligned

LD251836 Kuwait KUNA in English 1607 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Kuwait, July 25 (KUNA) — Deputy Premier and Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir Monday received a message from Yugoslavia's Foreign Minister Lazar Mojsov.

The message was delivered by the Yugoslav charge d'affaires in Kuwait, Milan Leskovic, at a meeting with Shaykh Sabah Monday in the Foreign Ministry headquarters.

Shaykh Sabah said the message deals with issues relating to the Non-Aligned Movement within the framework of consultations between both countries on means of solving the problems of the non-aligned member states.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM Editorial on Replacing Habib

Kuwait KUNA in English 1031 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Text] Kuwait, July 24 (KUNA) — A prominent Kuwaiti daily Sunday drew parallels between the American decision to replace Middle East negotiator Philip Habib and a well-known Arab joke about a man called "Omran Donkey".

Omran, the story goes, wanted a passport, but the official in charge insisted that he could not possibly obtain one under such a name, and advised him to get it changed. So he went to court and asked for a name-change...from "Omran Donkey" to "Amer Donkey".

This, the daily *Ar-Ra'y al-'Amm's* editorial said, is exactly what the U.S. Administration has done. It has kept its ridiculous Middle East policy, the "donkey", in tact, and replied to criticism by changing the name of the man in charge, thinking that it was the personality of Philip Habib rather than the entire U.S. strategy that was unacceptable to people of the area.

Rather than being an indication of American stupidity, the paper said this shows that the American political mind works on the assumption that the Arabs are stupid...children to be laughed at, patronized, and entertained with silly games like this token change of envoy.

McFarlane, it added, is not a magician. He will not reverse what Habib, Shultz and the rest of the gang have done. Washington, which decided in 1975 to turn Lebanon into an Arab battlefield so that the Camp David accords could be implemented, knows full well that the Lebanese tragedy is a direct and intentional result of its policies.

These policies, the paper added, amount to an Israeli-American plan to dominate the Arab world, crush its legitimate aspirations, and present this strategy to the world as "the only way to peace."

America has not the least intention of deviating from its policy or taking the Arab viewpoint into account, *Ar-Ra'y al-'Amm* continued, and simply wants a new man, McFarlane, to undertake the task of inundating the Arab world with platitudes, reassurances, and promises to be broken.

It will simply serve to reinforce the misplaced optimism shown by (Lebanese President Amin) al-Jumayyil in Washington, and be used as a cover for "de-Arabization" of Lebanon as a prelude to eliminating the Palestinian resistance movement.

Lebanon is on the verge of renewed civil war as a result, America knows that it is to blame, but since when have bloodshed and massacres shaken the [word indistinct] cowboy conscience", the editorial asked.

Ar-Ra'y al-Amm concluded by predicting that McFarlane will spend the next few months shuttling, meeting, visiting and declaring, until sufficient time has elapsed for the forthcoming U.S. elections to paralyze the White House's Middle East Policy.

SAUDI ARABIA

Saudi Arabia, PDRY To Exchange Ambassadors

GF250808 Manama Gulf Daily News in English 24 Jul 83 p 1

[Text] Saudi Arabia and South Yemen will soon exchange ambassadors for the first time since 1977.

Indian Official Arrives in Jidda With Message

GF221904 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Romesh Bhandari, Indian Foreign Ministry under secretary and special envoy of the Indian prime minister, arrived in Jidda today on a visit to the Kingdom, during which he will deliver a message from Indian Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi to King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

Received by Foreign Minister

GF231210 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Excerpt] His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, minister of foreign affairs, met today with Romesh Bhandari, Indian secretary in the Foreign Ministry and envoy to the Indian prime minister, who is currently visiting the Kingdom.

During the meeting, they discussed a number of issues of common interest, foremost being the Middle East crisis and the role India is playing in its capacity as the chairman of the Nonaligned Summit Conference.

Departs 24 July

GF241817 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Romesh Bhandari, Indian Foreign Ministry under secretary and envoy of Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, left Jidda today following the conclusion of his 4-day visit to the Kingdom, during which he met with Saudi officials and delivered a message from the Indian prime minister to King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

Tunisian Envoy Arrives With Message for King Fahd

LD251515 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1450 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] At-Ta'if 25 Jul (SPA) — The private adviser to the president of Tunisia Habib Bourguiba arrived today in At-Ta'if for a visit during which he is to hand King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz a message from the president.

Israeli Ministers' Visit to U.S. Discussed

GF251459 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Analysis by Jasir al-Jasir]

[Text] Less than a week following the announcement of the postponement of the visit of the enemy's prime minister, Menahem Begin, to the United States, a spokesman for the Zionist entity's Cabinet spoke of U.S. President Reagan's desire to discuss the situation in Lebanon with other senior Israeli officials. In order to realize Reagan's desire Tel Aviv has sent its Foreign Affairs Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Defense Minister Moshe Arens.

Observers say the visit of the Israeli foreign and defense ministers particularly during the time scheduled for the postponed visit of the prime minister is in total conformity with the U.S. plans, which took into account the continuation of the discussion of the Lebanese situation through separate talks with the Lebanese and Israeli leaderships. Thus, after Begin refrained from going to Washington, Reagan wanted to continue talks with two of his prominent ministers.

Observers in Washington and Tel Aviv see that Reagan's desire was due to the keenness of the U.S. Administration to profit from the visit of President Al-Jumayyil and the Lebanese prime minister to Washington, that is to learn about Begin's (?plans) for Lebanon. Thus, observers see the visit of the Israeli defense and foreign ministers to Washington, which comes following the visit of Al-Jumayyil and Al-Wazzan, as a new chapter in U.S. efforts aimed at executing the terms of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement signed 17 May.

Moreover, the invitation to Shamir and Arens to the United States when Israel began to execute its measures for the redeployment of its forces in Lebanon, which basically contradicts the terms of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement, gives a dimension to this invitation and visit. It is known that Washington does not like this Israeli redeployment in Lebanon. President al-Jumayyil stated to President Reagan the dangers of this redeployment and its present and future influence which could amount to the partitioning of Lebanon, in addition to its negative effects on the security situation in Lebanon. Thus, it is expected that the talks Shamir and Arens will hold in Washington will concentrate on this point and that the Americans will try to convince the Israelis to postpone implementing this Israeli plan aimed at redeployment or shelve it for total withdrawal which is what the Lebanese Government wants.

Dailies Explore Palestinian Differences

GF230530 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 23 Jul 8

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper *Ar-Riyadh* today commented on Palestinian differences saying: Is it necessary to have Palestinian differences and to begin reconciliation teams from various Arab and international capitals? Those who used to have emotional dealings only with the Palestinian struggle during the long experience of the PLO see that it is the only Arab vanguard which is practicing self-criticism from inside, and this is what enabled it to preserve democratic and legitimate dialogue far away from Arab pressures which tried, and are still trying, to contain this struggle and tame it within regional Arab conflicts.

The PLO is the only party under which all can meet under the major principles of liberating Palestine. It has never used one formula to face the current Arab and international situation. This made it a flexible movement amid boisterous Arab currents, knowing that the weapon of slogans in the Arab homeland which is being distorted by changeable wills and whims cannot allow the Palestinian point of view to contradict the general line of the regime of this or that country. Palestinian leaders know that without solid land on which to build the beginning of their policy toward liberation they are considered captives of the place, even if this land is Arab.

Ar-Riyadh continued: What took place among Palestinian factions requires a positive reflection with one's self and to reconsider the existing framework of all situations and circumstances which caused the organization split and to create a new situation that would not split Palestinian unity but make the current situation and its complications a positive lesson that exceeds persons and desires to reach sincere intentions toward the revolution and its struggle.

AL-JAZIRAH Warns Against Communist Influence

PM251349 Riyadh Al-Jazirah in Arabic 19 Jul 83 p 1

[Editorial: "Selfish and Opportunist Allies"]

[Excerpts] One of the many similarities between communism and Zionism is that they essentially take the same view of those who do not belong to them. Communism views every noncommunist with such hatred that it believes he does not deserve to live, and Zionism looks at every non-Jew as an animal or insect that should have none of man's rights to life. What Zionism does through Israel to non-Jews in Lebanon — as it did in the Sabra and Shatila camps — is proof of its contempt for the humanity of the Lebanese and the Palestinians. Communism, through Soviet soldiers and Afghan Communists, is doing the same thing in Afghanistan, as was evident in the acts recently perpetrated over 11 days in (Turjan) Valley against the civilian population which responds to the national call and cooperates with the heroes of the Afghan resistance fighters during their fedayeen operations against the Soviet occupation forces and their agent Afghan Communists.

The effective and varied assistance the Afghan Communists give to the Soviet occupation forces, even in the annihilation of Afghan citizens without discrimination between civilians and the resistance fighters, is the same "assistance" that all the communists in a noncommunist country give the outsider against the noncommunist majority rejecting communism.

Communists everywhere, in every state, among every people, in every faction, in trade unions, and even in fedayeen organizations, schools, and everywhere constantly seek to achieve the objective of imposing communism by every means and method they know.

They are like a cancer, but even worse; like cancer, they grow from small, malignant, and microscopic cells that can hardly be detected. They grow in size and strength, expand and dominate until the time comes when they audaciously come out into the open. They do so when they realize that power, their preferred means, lies in their hands and that they are in a stronger position and capable of dictating what they want, as is happening now in a certain place in our Arab homeland.

It is hoped that the noncommunist Arabs will learn from the experience of some of the Arabs who suffered from the treachery of the communist minorities which place the cause of communism above all national causes.

It is absolutely not true that the communists outside the communist world are honest strugglers and revolutionaries for the sake of national causes. They are only loyal agents struggling to the death for the cause of communism and of the custodian of world communism.

It is not true that communists in any noncommunist society could be allies in a common destiny; they are only selfish and opportunist allies.

UAE

President Receives Message From PDRY Chairman

GF251136 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1035 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 25 Jul (WAKH) — UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan today received a written message from 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, PDRY chairman of the People's Supreme Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers, dealing with bilateral relations and current Arab developments.

YAR

Algerian Prime Minister Pays Visit to San'a'

Arrives 25 July

GF250829 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Algerian Prime Minister Mohamed Abdelghani arrived today in San'a' on an official visit to the YAR to last for several days. During the visit he will hold talks with his Yemeni counterpart 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani, focusing on development of bilateral relations, in addition to discussing the current Arab situation and the Palestinian issue in particular.

Official Talks Begin

GF251830 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Excerpt] The first session of talks between our country and Algeria was held today. The YAR side was led by Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee, and the Algerian side was led by Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, member of the FLN Political Bureau and Algerian prime minister.

During this session views were exchanged on cooperation, particularly in the technical, economic, cultural and professional fields, in order to strengthen the fraternity and bonds between the Yemeni and Algerian revolutions.

The talks also dealt with the means to develop the joint efforts to bolster the Arab rank's unity and solidarity in order to confront the conspiracies hatched against the Arab people and their basic issue: The Arab Palestinian people's issue and their right to self-determination and establishment of their independent state on their national soil.

Foreign Minister Comments on Lebanese Situation

NC252030 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has said, in a statement to a radio correspondent on the situation in Lebanon, that Lebanon suffers from foreign intervention in its domestic affairs as a result of the continuing occupation and presence of foreign troops on its territory. He added that it is essential that full national reconciliation be attained, that the legitimate consensus, which was demonstrated in the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies, be maintained, and that the legitimate authority be strengthened.

Mubarak, Muhyi ad-Din Discuss Romanian Visit

NC251821 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak today received Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din on the occasion of the latter's visit to Romania, which is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, 27 July. His excellency said he has acquainted the president with the topics that he will be discussing with the Romanian officials aimed at enhancing cooperation between the two countries in the various fields. Dr Muhyi ad-Din added that he will convey an oral message from President Mubarak to Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu dealing with the latest developments in the Middle East situation.

Mubarak To Watch Naval Maneuvers 26 July

NC230604 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2138 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Text] Cairo, 22 Jul (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak will Tuesday watch the first phase of one of the biggest maneuvers to be carried out by the naval forces. Various services of the armed forces will participate.

Most modern arms which the naval forces recently acquired will be used in these maneuvers. Live ammunition, sea-to-sea and land-to-sea missiles and depth charges will be used.

In its edition to be published on Saturday, Cairo's weekly *Akhbar al-Yawm* says that new Egyptian submarines and destroyers, which have been equipped with modern anti-submarine combat gear, as well as with night vision and all-weather air defenses, will appear in the maneuvers.

MAY on Activiites of Islamic Liberation Party

NC250814 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0618 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Cairo, 25 Jul (MENA) — The Cairo newspaper, *May*, published today, says the supreme state security prosecution will finish interrogating members of the terrorist organization which is affiliated with the Islamic Liberation Party in 2 weeks. The paper adds that the Islamic Liberation Party has an office in a European country and that it has recruited some Egyptian youths who have traveled abroad after graduation in search of job opportunities.

The paper points out that, in its recent activities, the Islamic Liberation Party has relied on some mosques preachers and university students and graduates. This group, whose number varies between 50 to 60 persons, is chaired by someone who works for one of the university institutions.

May states that the Egyptian security organs have learned of and monitored the party's movements and that they have a full picture of its activities both at home and abroad. They have arrested about 60 of its members, and important documents revealing the framework, dimensions, and names of some of the members of the movement have been seized.

May says the movement's members, who were recruited both at home and abroad, have used some foreign personalities who have strongly held views to carry leaflets and funds to the movement in Egypt. The paper adds that the Islamic Liberation Party has established arms training centers under the cover of exercise facilities, such as judo and karate.

May adds that the sources of the movement's financing include monthly subscriptions paid by some of the members and funds paid by some foreign personalities.

The paper adds that the party's belief is that all countries and regimes are atheist and that they must be changed by force. The party aims also at setting up an Islamic caliphate that would comprise all the Islamic states. The party constitution is based on violence.

May concludes that the movement has sent some of its leaders to Arab and Islamic states, as it previously sent Salih Sariyah, leader of the technical military academy group, who was executed in Egypt. The movement also sent to Egypt Muhammad Salim, who had some connection with the October coup d'etat attempt.

DPRK Vice Premier Due in Cairo 31 July

NC251500 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1300 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Cairo, 25 Jul (MENA) — DPRK Vice Premier Kang Song-san is due in Cairo on 31 July on a visit of several days to Egypt. During the visit, the Korean official will hold talks with Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Dr Mustafa Kamal Hilmi, deputy prime minister for public services and minister of state for education and scientific research; and a number of ministers.

The talks will focus on means of bolstering relations between the two countries in the various fields in light of the agreement reached during President Husni Mubarak's visit to the DPRK in April.

Within this context, Kamal Hasan 'Ali met with the DPRK ambassador in Cairo and discussed with him all topics related to this visit and to bilateral relations. The discussions also touched on the issues on the agenda of the upcoming conference of the nonaligned states' ministers of education and culture, slated to be held in Pyongyang during the last week of September.

Reportage on Continued Fighting in Hajj 'Umran

Communique No 1,163

JN251654 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1615 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Jul (INA) — For the 3d consecutive day, Iraqi units in the northern sector of the battlefield continued to strike Iranian enemy troop concentrations opposite their positions in the Hajj 'Umran area.

Military communique No 1,163 issued here this evening said that Iranian losses in life and equipment were heavy and amounted to 700 killed, large numbers of wounded, and quantities of weapons destroyed.

The communique added that Iraqi aircraft and helicopters continue to carry out fierce and intensive raids against enemy positions and troop concentrations in the northern sector. The communique said that the Iraqi aircraft scored direct and effective hits and inflicted heavy losses in life and equipment on the enemy and that the sound of explosions were heard and flames were seen covering the destroyed enemy targets and positions. The communique said that all the Iraqi aircraft and helicopters returned safely to base. The communique also stated that Iranian artillery today shelled Basra and its suburbs, damaging civilian installations.

Communique No 1,163 issued by the Armed Forces General Command:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

In defense of glorious Iraq's sovereignty and the achievements of its vanguard revolution, and to safeguard the security of the Iraqis and the prosperous future of their sons, our valiant Armed Forces pursue their courageous activities against the forces of the clique of oppression and tyranny that is ruling in Iran. The results of the activities yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our valiant units continued to strike with all types of weapons enemy positions and troop concentrations opposite their positions in the Hajj 'Umran area in the northern sector of the battlefield, inflicting more losses in life and equipment. Known enemy losses during yesterday's battles and the activities of our units today opposite only one of our forward units positions amount to more than 700 killed, a large number of wounded, and the destruction of quantities of weapons and military hardware. This is in addition to what was mentioned in our communique No 1,162 issued yesterday.

2. Our able aircraft and daring helicopters belonging to the Armed Forces' Air Force today continued their fierce and intensive raids against enemy positions and troop concentrations in the northern sector of the battlefield and against enemy units opposite our forward units' positions in the Hajj 'Umran area in the same sector, scoring direct and effective hits. Our aircraft and helicopters inflicted on the enemy heavy losses in life and equipment. Sounds of explosions were heard and flames were seen covering the destroyed enemy targets and positions. All our aircraft and helicopters returned safely to base, praise be to God.

3. Four infantry positions were destroyed and their occupants killed in the central sector of the battlefield.

4. The artillery of the rancorous Khomeyniite regime this morning shelled Basra and its suburbs, damaging civilian installations.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 July 1983

Saddam Visit to Front

JN261150 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1140 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Jul (INA) — President Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, today visited the northern sector of the battlefield. Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces and defense minister, accompanied the president on his visit to the Iraqi I Army Corps sector.

During his meeting with the fighters of one of the military formations in the sector, the president expressed his pride and that of the leadership and all the Iraqis in the Iraqi fighters' heroic deeds and defiance of death in defense of Iraq's dignity and well being.

It is known that fierce battles are now taking place in thenorthern sector, where the Iraqi forces have since Friday been repulsing Iranian attempts to cross Iraq's international border.

Army Commander on Operations

JN260731 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0710 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Jul (INA) — The I Army Corps commander has stressed that the Iraqi Armed Forces have destroyed entire Iranian military units during the enemy's attempt to cross Iraq's impregnable borders in the Hajj 'Umran area in the northern sector.

In a statement to the newspaper *Ath-Thawrah*, published today, he added that the Iraqi armed units are in full control of the situation and the offensive. He indicated that our armed units are intensively continuing their assault activities by chasing the enemy remnants and mercenaries and inflicting the heaviest possible losses, in addition to the other losses, which amount to thousands of killed or wounded and a large number caputured.

The I Army Corps commander emphasized that the Iraqi units' activities in the northern sector will continue against the enemy with all the army corps, particularly with backup artillery, the Air Force, and helicopters, in order to root out the enemy's intentions and sick dreams. He praised the coordination among the various fighting corps of the I Army Corps, the Air Force, and the Army gunships, adding that this coordination played a large role in defeating the enemy and those collaborating with it. He noted that the battlefield was filled with the enemy's dead and destroyed vehicles.

Further on Military Situation

JN251146 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1100 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] The field commanders of the heroic I Army Corps have stressed that our bold units, which are valiantly fighting the forces of the vicious Khomeyniite clique in the northern sector, constitute a steel wall against which the aggressors' wicked dreams founder.

In statements to the INA team in the northern sector, they said that the aggressor Iranian forces' attempts to penetrate our borders in this sector will face the inevitable destiny which faced their previous desperate attempts in all operational sectors.

A staff brigadier general, who is commanding one of the formations that fought the enemy during the first moments of its offensive, stated that his formation's brave fighters, in cooperation with our Kurdish people's fighters, inflicted massive losses on the attacking forces and forced them to retreat under the pressure of the valor and steadfastness of the forces of the leader of victory, Staff Field Marshal Saddam Husayn.

The formation's commander, with whom the team met at a forward position at dawn today, added: Our heroic fighters, who are well known for their daring assaults against the criminal forces, are holding out in their positions and enjoying high morale, embodying their faith in the justice of the cause they are defending and in the sacredness of Iraq's cherished soil. He asserted that our glorious soldiers will remain — as our proud people have always known them — the zealous cavaliers who defend the homeland and the dignity of its people. He added that the Iraqi people are standing like a towering mountain in cohesion with their Armed Forces against the imperialist onslaught and its tool, the vicious Khomeyniite clique.

Another military formation commander holding the rank of colonel said that the Iranian military commanders know better than the Tehran rulers the extent of the massive losses sustained by their aggressor forces. They are also aware of the Iraqi people's assault capability, bold fighting, and shocking blows. He emphasized our valiant forces' solid military situation and the hostile Iranian forces' failure to achieve any aggressive aim at a time when the enemy forces are being dealt destructive blows by our brave units and heroic pilots.

Two Iranian Naval Targets Destroyed 26 July

JN261016 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1005 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our heroic naval force this morning discovered a number of enemy naval targets in the northeastern part of the Arab Gulf while trying to enter the Bandar-e Khomeyni port. Our brave naval units confronted them and dealt them direct and strong blows. At 0840 and 0842 today, our naval units managed to destroy two of these naval targets. The remainder of the enemy targets fled in panic and in a state of complete confusion while trying to avoid our naval force's strong blows.

Our observation posts heard the sounds of strong and successive explosions in the area of the two destroyed enemy targets. All our valiant naval units returned safely to base, praise be to God.

[Dated] 26 July 1983

Saddam Cables Mubarak on Egyptain National Day

JN230730 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0655 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Jul (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has congratulated Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak on Egypt's national day.

In a cable to the Egyptian president, President Saddam Husayn said: On the occasion of your celebrations of Egypt's national day it pleases us to send to you, on our behalf and in the name of the Iraqi people, our warmest congratulations and sincere wishes. We wish the fraternal Arab people of beloved Egypt progress, prosperity, and dignity.

On this occasion, we ask Almighty God to assist us all in attaining the objectives of our glorious Arab nation, safeguarding its pride and dignity, and achieving victory over its enemies.

Romanian Deputy Premier Continues State Visit

Further Talks With Ramadan

JN261036 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1020 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Jul (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, today met with Ion Nicolae, Romanian deputy prime minister, and his delegation to complete talks about ways to promote cooperation between the two friendly countries.

Ion Nicolae conveyed to the first deputy prime minister Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu's greetings to President Saddam Husayn, stressing his country's desire to expand cooperation with Iraq in the various fields.

The first deputy prime minister expressed his satisfaction withthe progress of relations between Iraq and Romania, indicating the importance of the Romanian official's visit to Iraq. He added that this visit emphasizes Romania's serious desire to expand its relations with Iraq.

The two sides then discussed the possibility of increasing the participation of Romanian companies in current development projects in Iraq.

Meeting With Industry Minister

JN251013 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0900 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Jul (INA) — Industry and Minerals Minister Subhi Yasin today met with Romanian Deputy Prime Minister

Ion Nicolae, who is currently visiting Iraq at the head of a delegation.

The two sides discussed the scopes of economic and technical cooperation between the two friendly countries. They also reviewed the development projects Romanian institutions are implementing in Iraq.

Meeting With Transport Minister

JN251016 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0950 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Jul (INA) — Transport and Communications Minister 'Abd al-Jabbar 'Abd ar-Rahim met with Romanian Deputy Prime Minister Ion Nicolae and his delegation here today. The two sides reviewed bilateral cooperation in the fields of transport and communications and the means of developing it.

Ion Nicolae admired the comprehensive development in Iraq and stressed Romania's desire to bolster its relations with Iraq in all fields.

INA: KDP Secretary Denounces Kurdish 'Guides'

JN251548 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1525 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Jul (INA) — KDP Secretary Hashim Hasan 'Aqrawi has stated that in their new attempt to cross Iraqi borders in the northern sector the Iranian rulers have resorted to a cheap trick, that of exploiting the guides who have betrayed their homeland.

In a statement to INA 'Aqrawi said that these traitors have disavowed the sanctity of the homeland's soil and the genuine national and pan-Arab values, have sold their conscience to the foreigner, and have become puppets exploited by enemy quarters in accordance with their whims and schemes.

'Aqrawi called on all the members, supporters, and friends of the KDP and the sons of the Kurdish people in the autonomous region to intensify their strikes against the Iranian enemy and its guides, who are traitors, mercenaries, and hirelings.

'Aqrawi said that the KDP's role was consolidated when its members participated in the first sector of the Popular Army for the autonomous region and that the KDP continues to supply the front lines with its fighters, who seek the honor of participating in the battle in defense of the homeland and the dignity of its sons.

Continued Reportage on Delegation's U.S. Visit

Al-Jumayyil Houston Speech

NC241121 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Speech delivered by Lebanese President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil to Lebanese Americans at the Western Galleria Hotel in Houston on 23 July; in English except as noted — recorded]

[Text] Dear friends. This is by no means my first visit to this great city. Each time I come here, I grow fonder of this beautiful and generous land. My visit on this occasion, however, is prompted by a sense of duty. On the one hand, I have come to ask you, good Americans of Lebanese origin — you who love America, who cherish her ideals of justice, of freedom, of human rights — I have come to ask you to respond to Lebanon's call to rally along her to vindicate her cause. [applause]

You are great Americans, and because you are great Americans you cannot be indiffirent to the plight of your motherland, for Lebanon's cause is the cause of every free man and every honorable man. I have also come here to assure you that the Lebanon you love shall overcome every difficulty, surpass every obstacle, and thus our country shall be reborn through the united efforts of the Lebanese at home and abroad. [applause]

We will restore the land; we will rebuild the homes; we will create a nation worthy of our great people. Yes, we will do all this; we will do it together, because we are free, because we are united, and because we are unconquerable. [applause] Lebanon must at all times become the land of peace, of nobility, the land of proper brotherhood and of human dignity. Some refer to our country as the meeting point between the East and the West and as a bridge between the ancient and the modern worlds. Lebanon is not only the meeting point of the East and the West, but it has long been the meeting point of many ethnic and religious groups. Lebanon is a country of minorities, both ethnic and religious. In fact, we are a pluralistic society that must continue to survive in unity and harmony. We fully understand the indispensable elements constituting our national policy. In the words of the French philosopher Pascal: Plurality which is not reduced to unity is confusion; unity which does not depend on plurality is tyranny.

As a country that has both its character and personality through the coming together of various religious, ethnic, and social groups, Lebanon realizes that her success as a nation has always depended on the determination of the part of all groups, that each component must be protected in order to develop and survive. To us, the upholding of human rights poses a true basis for religious and ethnic coexistence and a true basis for national unity. We do not ignore, nor do we wish to suppress, the diversity of ethnic and religious cultures and separate one group from another. We seek a wider loyalty, a larger aspiration, a vaster vision and base this on one thing: The subordination of ethnic and religious interests to the imperative claim of a unified nation. [applause]

Today in Lebanon we have a unique opportunity to provide the world with a model of democracy and tolerance which may hopefully influence others to follow its example. As a nation, however, we harbor no grudge against anyone; we desire no gain at anyone else's expense; we do not question others as to the choices they make; we extend to everyone the hand of friendship; and we desire the well-being of all our brethern on the face of the earth. [applause] But we are equally determined to protect our integrity as a nation [applause], our sovereignty as a state, our unity as a people. [applause]

We have tolerated years of great dangers, years of severe anxiety and stress that we may win our freedom. We have been fiercely assailed by a series of trials and tribulations that we may save our land. The days of peril, uncertainty, and turmoil; the days of agony, tragedy, and pain have strengthened our resolve and instilled in us an unwavering determination to triumph. [applause]

Dear friends, beloved friends, friends of Lebanon, I entreat you and plead with you all to arise as one soul, to spare no effort to (?rededicate) yourselves to the task ahead of you, to seize every opportunity, to use every lawful means at your disposal to [word indistinct] the plight of your country, to become her chosen voice. And remember the words of your great compatriot Amin Rayhani spoken 70 years ago, which seem to address themselves to every Lebanese wherever he may be and to [words indistinct] his imagination and his patriotic spirit. He said: Our country is just beginning to speak; I am her chosen voice; I feel that if I do not respond, if I do not come to her, she will be doomed forever.

Let us then respond, and let us defend and protect our beloved Lebanon. [applause]

My beloved [applause], every time I visit the beautiful city of Houston, I get more attached to it, because it is beautiful, and because Lebanon may have given it a bit [applause]. The sons of Lebanon in this city are giving Lebanon a great deal and still want to give it more. I would like to tell you that the whole of Lebanon is looking to you and to our brothers who are away from it. Lebanon tells you that it has not forgotten you and is waiting for you so we may proceed together in our march to save the homeland. This is because there are certain people who think it is easy to triumph over Lebanon. They think of Lebanon in terms of its small area and population. However, they forget that Lebanon is an empire on which the sun does not set [applause] and that Lebanon can only be measured by the ambition and pride of its people, who have managed to destroy the plots and to make this small land big with ambitions, freedom and prestige. [applause]

These people have stood up to all the plots and resources pooled against them. They have remained steadfast with their faith and because they emerged from this good soil. These people mixed with Lebanon's soil, were polished by its rocks and now aspire to the glory of Lebanon's cedars [applause]. Some people think it is a small area and that it is all right if they take a piece here and piece there [laughter and applause]. Since Lebanon's scenery and climate are nice, they think that [words indistinct] from the south, north, or east. They forgot to review history to learn that any invader who ever entered Lebanon was buried there. [applause]. I tell those who want to fire rockets at us and all those who think of affecting our people's steadfastness and ambition that Lebanon is not mere land. I tell them that land is not a mere area and that the people are not just figures. I tell them that Lebanon, however destroyed, is a rock. I tell them that no matter how many of its people are martyred, Lebanon is stronger than rocks and time. Let them destroy as many rocks as they want and kill as many as they want of our people. But what they will never be able to destroy is the Lebanese people's ambition and determination [applause] that Lebanon will remain a homeland of pride, prestige, and freedom. This freedom may impose on us shortly the reception as political refugees of those who harbored ambitions in and desecrated our land. [applause]

No matter how many buildings collapse and how many martyrs fall, Lebanon will remain a haven of freedom and will teach it. Lebanon is ready any time to open its doors even to those who slandered it, when they really understand the reality of Lebanon, repent, and ask for forgiveness from Lebanon's soil. Then we will teach them the meaning of freedom, independence, and pride [applause].

Salim's Houston Press Conference

NC240953 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Dispatch by Lebanese Information Ministry mission in Houston — recorded]

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim has given a press conference to the journalists and correspondents who came to cover President Amin al-Jumayyil's meeting with the Lebanese community in the city of Houston. Minister Salim began by giving a resume of the speech which President al-Jumayyil had earlier delivered in Arabic. Salim then answered the questions put to him by the journalists. He said:

[Salim, in English] I believe that a new momentum has been given to the withdrawal of the foreign forces from Lebanon. A new determination has been made and a new commitment in the appointment of somebody from the White House to be directly involved in this [Reporter interrupts Salim to provide a superimposed Arabic translation of his statement and says: Minister Salim said the withdrawal of the Syrians and Palestinians from Lebanon is linked to the Israeli withdrawal. He also said the problems we are facing are complex and are related to Lebanon as well as to the other states in the area and the two superpowers.]

[Salim, in English] They involve all parts of regional powers and commitment, and they involve the relations of the superpowers. Therefore, the problem is not nearly an internal Lebanese affair; in fact, it is not at all a Lebanese affair. [Reporter interrupts to provide further superimposed Arabic translation and says: Therefore, the question is not an internal Lebanese affair, but it is a question that concerns all the states of the area.]

[Salim, in English] [Words indistinct] by a magic wand or by two or three discussions. [Reporter interrupts to provide superimposed Arabic translation and says: Replying to a question, Salim said a solution cannot be achieved by a magic wand, nor will it come immediately through discussions in one capital or another. The important thing is to have continuous resolve to solve all problems. There is sufficient possibility to tackle and resolve each problem separately. This is delicate and difficult work, but it can and must be carried out. It is necessary to carry it out soon, but it cannot be said that a solution will be achieved in weeks.]

[Salim, in English] In terms of a few weeks, it will be a disastrous and futile if we are to think of it in terms of [words indistinct]. [Reporter interrupts to provide superimposed Arabic translation and says: Replying to a question as to whether Lebanon will approach the Soviet Union to help it in resolving its crisis, Minister Salim said: What is important are the results. We are dealing with the United States, because we are convinced of its strong influence over Israel, and because it is capable of dealing with Syria and the Palestinians. However, we believe that it cannot influence Syria and the Palestinians without discussing the subject with the Soviet Union at the same time. You are aware that the discussions on this subject are continuing between the two superpowers.]

[Salim, in English] ...without at the same discussing this matter with the Soviet Union, and, as you know, there have been continuous discussions along this line. So the question is not whether the Soviet Union should be involved but at what level and at what degree of [Reporter interrupts to provide superimposed Arabic translation and says: Therefore, the question is not whether the Soviet Union should have a role but at what level.

To another question, Minister Salim said he had often met with the new U.S. envoy, Robert McFarlane, whom he described as a brilliant man with much experience and the ability to tackle the complicated Lebanese issue. He also spoke about Fairbanks, who will accompany McFarlane to the area. About Fairbanks, Minister Salim said he is an experienced and clever man. He added that both men have sufficient vigor and wisdom to help us in resolving our problems.]

[Salim, in English] When you were busy in the convention hall, I was also meeting with the team in the State Department, and Mr McFarlane is a brilliant and high level official. [Reporter interrupts to provide superimposed Arabic translation and says: To another question, Minister Salim replied by saying: When the formation of the U.S. working team is completed, it will most probably proceed to the area at the end of next week, when it will first visit Israel and then Lebanon and later the other states concerned. Replying to another question, Minister Salim said there is nothing to prevent McFarlane from holding talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on the subjects that concern them.]

Al-Wazzan Address

NC240852 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Speech delivered by Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan to Lebanese Americans at Western Galleria Hotel in Houston on 23 July — recorded]

[Excerpts] O kinfolk, o dear part of Lebanon in this dear country which is today standing by us in our ordeal and extending its hand

President al-Jumayyil said: You will soon return to Lebanon, to the south, Al-Biqa', the mountain, Beirut, and to Lebanon's towns and villages. Looking around, you will only find the Lebanese flag flying over every inch of the homeland, which we will raise on our march for salvation and for Lebanon's glory.

The ceremony was concluded by the audience singing both the Lebanese and the U.S. anthems.

Al-Jumayyil Meets Mitterrand in Paris, Comments

NC251349 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Dispatch from Paris by radio correspondent Fadi Najjar — recorded]

[Excerpts] President Amin al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan stopped over in Paris this morning and met with President Mitterrand in the Elysee Palace at noon. The stopover was to thank France for its support of legitimacy in Lebanon and of Lebanon's unity and independence. It was an opportunity for the three leaders to exchange views, especially since Al-Jumayyil and Al-Wazzan were on their way back from a summit meeting with President Reagan in Washington, and since France will be called upon, when the time comes, to increase the number of its forces in Beirut.

After the 1-hour meeting, in which Francois de Grossouvre and Ambassador Abu al-Lami participated, President al-Jumayyil said: It was an opportunity to thank France and the French people for their full support of Lebanon. France knows very well the traditional relations that exist between us, and the presence of the French force within the framework of the multinational force is just a proof of this support for and understanding of our cause. The person of President Mitterrand is the manifestation of this traditional relationship between our two countries.

Asked whether he asked for an increase of the French force, he said: We did not specifically discuss this subject. The meeting was an opportunity to discuss possible solutions to the Lebanese problem.

Asked how he is going to provide security for the Ash-Shuf area after the Israeli withdrawal, he replied: We have no problem in this regard. Just as we have ensured security for Beirut, we shall ensure it for the Ash-Shuf. The Lebanese Army has no worry about moving to any part of Lebanese territory at the appropriate time. He added: The Army is today providing security in Beirut without suppression. Where the Lebanese Army is present there is freedom and democracy. The opposition expresses its opinion as it wishes within the framework of the constitution. The opposition has its own radio station in Beirut, and it enjoys the Army's protection. It has its own information media which enjoys the Army's protection. The opposition leaders, like the officials, also enjoy this protection. After all this, we cannot accept being told that there is no freedom or that there is suppression. I challenge those who say this to establish a radio station opposed to Syria in the Syrian-occupied area or a station opposed to Israel in the Israel-occupied area. President al-Jumayyil added: Where the Lebanese Army is present, there is freedom of expression and democracy. Unfortunately, where the occupation exists, there is suppression of patriotic voices that want to express their views. I want to assure you that 99 percent of the Lebanese people support the Lebanese Government and the support for this government is stronger in the Syrian-and Israeli-occupied areas. [Al-Jumayyil recorded statement in French omitted]

Al-Jumayyil said: Undoubtedly, you know now what are the elements being exploited today to cover up the occupation of the country. I regret this opposition cover. Unfortunately, it is not a true opposition. It is an airborne opposition carried on board a Syrian Army helicopter between one occupied village and another to establish a so-called opposition that represents neither the people's feelings nor the patriotic current that seeks to bring about the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon. I do not think there is one single Lebanese who opposes the withdrawal of the foreign forces, unless he is an agent or a traitor.

Al-Wazzan Comments in Paris on Salvation Front

NC252215 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] In Paris, after meeting with French Minister for External Relations Claude Cheysson, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan answered press questions by saying that French support has never been conditional and that France meets every request we make according to its capabilities. On the National Salvation Front, Al-Wazzan said: Thus far we have not discovered the objectives this front is seeking. We have never been opposed to any democratic front working in the political field. We believe in democracy and our parliamentary system is based on loyalty and opposition. He added: It is very beneficial to have an opinion different from the government's opinion, but whatever departs from this context becomes harmful to the country. We are now in a political, rather, a national phase.

Asked what he found in Washington, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said: We found that there is a useful move that makes us more hopeful and we expect relief soon.

Al-Wazzan also spoke about the Pentagon's admiration of the Lebanese Army, which in 6 months completed a 3-year program on the level of training, the use of weapons, and army preparedness. He added that the Americans had viewed Lebanon as one of the Third World countries but they were surprised by its Army's ability and discipline.

Delegation Returns From U.S. Visit 25 July

NC251532 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] The delegation that accompanied President al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister al-Wazzan on their visit to Washington arrived at Beirut airport a short while ago. On the aircraft, Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim made a statement describing the visit as successful. He said August will be a month of intensive diplomacy. Some of the most prominent and encouraging points in the U.S. activity are the appointment of a new presidential to save us: Blessed be every hand that saves, and paralyzed be every hand that destroys. [applause]

Lebanon today is unified with all its sons. I reassure you that Lebanon is unified with all its sons, both Christians and Muslims. All of them are one hand [applause].

Lebanon is passing through a difficult stage, but its leader His Excellency President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil [applause] is steering the ship amidst waves and rocks. We are avoiding any collision and are ready to make any sacrifice to serve and to save Lebanon.

We have come to the United States from our homeland on a mission which we believe is historic, because we have come to ring the bell of danger before a super and great power that is considered the leader of the free world. The United States and we are before a test of what freedom is and how it can be defended. In all our talks we have found that we are with friends, who have demonstrated care, attention, and readiness for every support.

We are more reassured today than when we came here. Therefore, we have allowed ourselves to make this tour and to come to you, first to reassure you, second, to encourage you, and third, to be frank with you. We want to tell you that today you are asked to maintain your (?attachment) to the homeland, which is passing through a delicate stage and is in need of all its sons, wherever they are. Every one of you has a role and task. Let us prove it and be honest in our work and sacrifice, because history will record the Lebanese attitude toward the homeland.

I maintain that Lebanon will triumph over its ordeal; Lebanon will return through your will and ours, whatever the difficulties and regardless of the enemies who have ambitions and desires to destroy or occupy us. Your will and that of the Lebanese will remain stronger and more powerful, and thus all occupations will vanish from our land, and we will be free through our willpower, God's will, and through the leadership of our president, Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil. [applause]

Al-Wazzan, Al-Jumayyil in Detroit

NC250917 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and the delegation accompanying him have concluded a visit to the United States amidst a feeling of optimism of reaching results leading to the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon and with the conviction that a solution of the Lebanese crisis will not be magic.

The Information Ministry mission last night reported that President al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister al-Wazzan, and the accompanying delegation will leave today for Paris to meet with French President Francois Mitterrand and then for Rome to meet with Italian officials to discuss the question of the multinational force in Lebanon.

President al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister al-Wazzan, and the accompanying delegation arrived in Detroit at 2245 last night from Houston on the last leg of their visit to the United States and their meeting with the Lebanese community.

The grand hall of the conference center was packed with Americans of Lebanese origin who had come from all over Michigan to welcome President al-Jumayyil and his party. President al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister al-Wazzan, and the accompanying delegation were accorded a great welcome and cheers. The Detroit chief of police, who is of Lebanese origin and from the 'Aridah family, opened the ceremony welcoming President al-Jumayyil and Lebanese first lady Mrs Joyce al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister al-Wazzan, and other members of the delegation.

Lebanese Ambassador in Washington Dr 'Abdallah Abu Habib then introduced the other members of the Lebanese delegation. He also introduced the personal representative of the governor of the state of Michigan, who delivered a speech warmly welcoming President al-Jumayyil and his delegation on behalf of the citizens of Michigan and the United States.

Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan then delivered a speech in which he affirmed that Lebanon is here to stay thanks to the steadfastness of its resident citizens and expatriates. Al-Wazzan called on the expatriates to support a cohesive unity of Lebanese in the motherland. He said: For the sake of Lebanon's unity, we reject a partial withdrawal, because we do not want a single Lebanese to believe that we are giving up an inch of Lebanese territory or a bit of Lebanon's soil. We want the homeland to be whole. Lebanon will remain, as you and we want, loyal to the principles and values which it advocated while working for all, for itself, for the fraternal countries, and for all mankind. Lebanon will remain loyal to all.

Ambassador Abu Habib then introduced President al-Jumayyil, who approached the podium greeting the expatriates amidst a storm of cheers and applause. President al-Jumayyil delivered a speech in English.

Speaking in Lebanese dialect, President al-Jumayyil said Lebanon will remain the homeland of freedom and independence, and its people will remain a symbol of dignity and vigor. He added: I would like to address a word from my heart to every one of you to assure you that Lebanon is here to stay forever. Lebanon derives its ambitions from its cedars, and his steadfastness, from its solid rocks.

President al-Jumayyil added: Some have thought that by money and arms they could usurp some kilometers, but they forgot that Lebanon and its territory are not measured by square kilometers and by millions but by the Lebanese people's ambition and steadfastness. Through the faith of its resident citizens and expatriates, Lebanon will continue to survive.

Addressing the Lebanese expatriates, Al-Jumayyil said: Lebanon needs you, wherever you may be. I am confident that not one of you can forget Lebanon. He said: The United States and we are fighting for the same objectives, namely mankind's freedom and the freedom of homelands. Inasmuch as you are loyal to Lebanon, you are also loyal to the United States and to the principles we are all seeking.

envoy, the U.S. determination to speed up the salvation steps, and the agreement on new ideas and common denominators.

Minister Salim maintained that this is the first time a president and a prime minister visited the United States. He said that while there are 3 million Lebanese in Lebanon, there are 7 million Lebanese in the world who will act to save their homeland.

Elie Salim Views Results

NC252000 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Excerpts] We will now listen to the statement made by Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim while on the plane bringing him back from the United States this morning. He made this statement to the Information Ministry mission accompanying him and to Lebanese television.

[Begin recording][Salim] This visit to the United States was very important. It is the first time in Lebanon's history that his excellency the president and the prime minister, together with a high-level delegation, went to the United States for in-depth discussions with the U.S. President and all the officials responsible for Middle East policy — and even for foreign policy in general — on the Lebanese problem and on all aspects of the Lebanese issue related to the Arab world, the Middle East, and the international situation. Perhaps it was the first time the United States heard his excellency the president and the prime minister sound the alarm. We indeed made it clear to them that Lebanon will be in danger, that U.S. policy in the Middle East will be in danger, and that the entire Middle East region will be in danger if the Lebanese problem is not solved. I think that this actually was the focus of discussion. One can say this point was well-understood. As a result, there was strong determination by the administration as a whole — the president, the State Department, the House, and the Senate — to support the Lebanese issue and to promote a solution.

Furthermore, it was the first time in history that his excellency the president has spoken to the Lebanese community in the United States. We have about 2 million Lebanese in the United States. They are active in all fields. We will need the United States very much in the coming 10 years. Lebanon needs reconstruction. The mobilization, unification, and direction of the Lebanese community toward one goal, which is the service of Lebanon, is a gigantic job. I think that his excellency the president opened the door in this visit, and we must follow up and make sure that what was built today will remain firm and strong forever.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Minister, you have spoken about U.S. commitment to the Lebanese issue. This commitment is not new. You discussed new ideas or what we call a strategy for action. Can you tell us the broad lines of this strategy and how implementation will begin?

[Salim] We can say that what resulted from this visit was the following: First, there is a determination more than at any time before — although the determination in the past was strong, the determination now is stronger than at any time before. We were told this with force and conviction by Reagan, Shultz, and the Senate and House leaders. Second, a new working team has been appointed. This team is led by an assistant to President Reagan. For President Reagan, who is entering an election year, to give up his right-hand man in the White House Robert McFarlane, to assume responsibility for the Lebanese issue is a profound commitment to Lebanon as far as the U.S. domestic political situation is concerned. Therefore, one must regard McFarlane's appointment as a strong personal interest by President Reagan in solving the Lebanese problem. The arrival of Fairbanks and McFarlane, considering that Fairbanks is a well-known Republican politician, emphasizes the delegation's importance. Third, the delegation is coming with new ideas, coming with practical ideas, and coming with many ideas that we discussed with them in detail. We discussed them for hours and hours. The important thing is for us to now find common denominators to ensure total withdrawals from Lebanon. It does not matter to us whether there is agreement or not, whether there is partial withdrawal or not, or whether there is one political position instead of another. What matters to us is the liberation of all Lebanon, otherwise there will be danger not only to Lebanon but to the entire area. Therefore, we can say there are new practical ideas. I am confident that these ideas will inevitably produce results soon. Fourth, since August is a month of rest and vacation in the United States and Europe, we have decided to reverse the picture. We made August the month of intensive diplomatic activity. Since Reagan and Shultz take their vacations this month, we were afraid that the United States will forget the importance of the Lebanese role. Therefore, we placed the Lebanese issue at the highest priorities of U.S. foreign policy. We in fact made it part of U.S. domestic policy. To many congressmen and to the Lebanese community it has become a domestic political issue — either you will solve the Lebanese problem or you will not get the sufficient votes from large groups who are interested in Lebanon. Some congressmen who had not heard about Lebanon before are now anxious to defend and support Lebanon. Therefore, August should be considered as a month of intensive diplomatic activity.

The U.S. working team will be working continuously with the Lebanese working team. We are awaiting its arrival at the end of next week. The activity will be intensive, and the ideas practical, because after 8 weeks of stagnation, no one can blame the Lebanese people if they think that the situation is deteriorating or that the Lebanese situation is retreating. This is not the situation. The Lebanese determination is today stronger than at any time before. There is strong confidence and optimism is at its height. There is firm U.S. support and there is strong European support. I think that the new working team that is coming the month of August will be very important.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Minister, could the new ideas on which you have agreed be a possible substitute to the agreement signed with Israel and the United States?

[Salim] The agreement is something that defines Lebanon's stand vis-a-vis the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon. The Lebanese-Israeli agreement is an agreement on the withdrawal of the Israeli army from Lebanon. The agreement is one thing. This is our agreement with Israel regarding Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon. It does not suit us for anyone to make conditions for us, as a sovereign and independent state, on how they are going to withdraw from our territory. We will talk to them on the basis of new ideas. These ideas do not necessarily have to be complementary or contradictory, nor must they have anything to do with the agreement. What matters is that the Lebanese objective, which is the liberation of all of Lebanon's territory, remain before our eyes and not become (?involved) in secondary matters, such as the agreement, partial withdrawal, and insignificant political positions. The basic objective is the liberation of Lebanon, otherwise the area will be ruined. We do not want anyone to divert us to positions that are not important Lebanese positions. The important Lebanese position is the liberation of all Lebanon. We will discuss with fraternal Syria, with the Palestinians, and with everyone the withdrawal of their forces from Lebanon on the basis of what we and they can agree upon. Of course, we will not put forward any idea that will harm the interests of an Arab state, threaten the interests of an Arab state, or threaten an Arab issue. Lebanon, by its nature, does everything that serves these causes and does not harm them. We are sorry if others have feelings about us that are incompatible with our feelings about them. Our feelings have not changed. Despite all the negative stands, our positions remain positive and our confidence remains firm and full.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Minister, how do you expect the Syrian attitude to be toward McFarlane's mission?

[Salim] I think Syria had some reservations over Ambassador Habib for reasons that had something to do with withdrawals that took place in the past and with commitments that were either misinterpreted or whose interpretation by some people has changed. Therefore, I do not think that there is any Arab reservation over McFarlane. Since McFarlane is very close to President Reagan and works as his aide in the White House, we think that the Arab states' welcome of McFarlane will be a positive Arab position for cooperation with the United States to remove Lebanon from its ordeal. Therefore, we think McFarlane will be received, he will have credibility, and he will be respected and effective in this stage just as Philip Habib was effective in the past stage. [end recording]

Al-Wazzan Urges More U.S. Pressure on Israel

PM260902 Riyadh Ar-Riyad in Arabic 19 Jul 83 p 1

[Ahmad Hasan al-Yami report: "In a Statement to *Ar-Riyad* Al-Wazzan Criticizes U.S. Role in Lebanon"]

[Excerpts] New York — Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has criticizes the U.S. role in Lebanon. He said that the U.S. Government is not exerting the required pressure on Israel to make it withdraw its invasion forces from Lebanese territory. On the eve of Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's departure from Washington, al-Wazzan said that Al-Jumayyil's aim is to ensure withdrawal of all forces from Lebanon.

In a telephone interview with *Ar-Riyad* in New York Al-Wazzan said that contact channels between Beirut and Damascus are still open but not at a level where progress can be made.

On the unilateral partial withdrawal which Israel has begun to implement, the Lebanese prime minister said: "We reject this partial withdrawal on legal and factual grounds but, most regrettably, we cannot control those who entered the country without our permission. We are endeavoring to prevent any harm which may result from this partial Israeli withdrawal. At the same time we insist on rejecting this withdrawal unless it is a part of a general schedule for a complete Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon."

On the U.S. role and whether the United States has honored its commitments to Lebanon or not, Al-Wazzan said: "We believe that the United States can do more. True, it is still committed to supporting Lebanon but we Lebanese feel that the efforts made by the United States so far are insufficient and we urge it to do more."

Qulaylat Phones Franjiyah, Iddih on Developments

NC251604 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] A telephone contact took place today between [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah and Ibrahim Qulaylat [leader of Independent Nasirite Movement-Al-Murabitun], during which the two sides discussed the current political and security developments. Both sides stressed the need for a unified national stand. In another development, Ibrahim Qulaylat held a telephone conversation with Raymond Iddih for the same purpose.

Qulaylat made the following statement after the two telephone contacts: The contacts were actually an opportunity to discuss the latest developments in the Lebanese arena. He added: My conversation with Raymond Iddih mainly revolved around the importance of the national stand on all domains, and [word indistinct] that govern the continuing relations between President Franjiyah and the Independent Nasirite Movement-Al-Murabitun. The importance of these relations lies in confronting the schemes [words indistinct] the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country. [sentence indistinct].

Raymond Iddih Comments on Current Developments

GF260812 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0650 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] Raymond Iddih, leader of the Lebanese National Bloc Party, has expressed total rejection of any foreign military presence in Lebanon. In an exclusive statement he made to the WAKH correspondent in Paris today, he stressed adherence to UN Resolution 509 which demands immediate and unconditional Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

Iddih expressed his rejection of the National Salvation Front which was set up recently in Lebanon, but he said that he supports every move opposed to the Lebanese-Israeli agreement which was signed under U.S. sponsorship on 17 July. He added that in December, before the beginning of the Khaldah and Qiryat Shemona meetings, he demanded that the Lebanese officials adhere to the truce agreement reached between Israel and Lebanon and to UN Resolution 509 which called for immediate Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

Iddih expressed support for Walid Junblatt in his defense of Ash-Shuf against the provocations of the Lebanese Phalangist forces and in his rejection of the Lebanese-Israeli agreement.

Iddih also touched on the call made by the Lebanese president on holding a referendum so that the Lebanese people could express their views. He termed this move as ridiculous and unconstitutional.

Prosecutor May Issue Warrant for Junblatt

NC251808 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Radio Free Lebanon has learned from legal sources that the military prosecutor's office might issue a warrant for the arrest of Walid Junblatt and accuse him of terrorist activities in application of Articles 314 and 315 of the penal code. The military prosecutor's office would (?base) itself on the public avowal made last Saturday in Ba'labakk by Junblatt when he proudly declared that his partisans had bombarded Beirut airport and peaceful regions, causing 20 deaths and 52 other casualties. The relatives of the victims, for their part, are preparing court action against Walid Junblatt. It is in this framework that the family of Army recruit 'Ali Rayyi, who was killed at Al-Yarzi Camp, have visited the Army Command.

Lebanese Forces Requests Arrest

NC251910 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in English 1745 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Today, there was a meeting of the Political Bureau of the Kata'ib [Phalangist] Party with Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil in the chair and the attendance of the Central Council. There was a discussion of the visit of President Amin al-Jumayyil to the United States and of the latest local, political, and security developments.

This evening the Command Council of the Lebanese Forces held its weekly meeting chaired by Mr Fadi Afram, commander in chief, and the council members to discuss the current situation and to adopt the appropriate measures. After the meeting the following communique was issued:

1. The visit of President Amin al-Jumayyil to the United States has given a further dimension to the Lebanese cause for President Reagan and his administration and for the Lebanese community in the United States.

2. The announcement of the so-called National Salvation Front by Mr Walid Junblatt has deprived him of all that was left to him of his authentic Lebanese identity.

3. The Lebanese Forces ask the commander-in-chief of the Lebanese Army to use the power given him by Article No 10 to issue a warrant for the arrest of Walid Kamal Junblatt after his public admission of having bombarded Lebanese Army positions at the airport and at Al-Yarzi on Friday, 22 July 1983.

Radio Correspondent Reports on Al-Biqa' Clashes

NC251247 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Dispatch by "our Al-Biqa' correspondent" — live or recorded]

[Text] A state of caution, fear, and tension still prevails in the Shtawrah area and its environs, because last night's clashes between Fatah groups extended to Jdita township. There were some casualties. These clashes began shortly after midnight. Rockets, artillery, and machineguns were used in the clashes, which continued violently up to 0500 , when they gradually abated. Three civilians of Jdita were slightly wounded. Several warring men were killed or wounded and were removed to the hospitals in the area. Damage was caused to buildings and property.

The power supply was cut in the area because of the clashes. All banks and most commercial places in Shtawrah closed today. Most of the roads leading to Jdita were precarious. Some inhabitants in the town were compelled to leave their homes because of the clashes. The people in the area spent the night in shelters and on lower floors.

The security situation at this moment in Jdita is subject to explode at any moment because of the reinforcements entering the town for the two sides.

Examinations in Al-Biqa' are being held as usual.

Resistance Operations Against Israeli Patrols

NC251428 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] During the past 24 hours Lebanese National Resistance fighters carried out three operations against the Zionist occupation forces. The enemy radio only admitted one of them, and as usual did not mention casualties.

At 2200 yesterday, National Resistance fighters attacked an enemy patrol of two tanks and one troop carrier on the coastal road between Al-Qasimiyah and Al-Burghuliyah. Reports say one tank was put out of action when hit by an anti-tank rocket and several soldiers were killed and wounded. Ambulances and helicopters were seen evacuating the casualties, thus indicating the scope of the operation. At 2000 yesterday, an enemy patrol came under rocket fire. One vehicle was damaged and a number of soldiers were wounded. This morning, the resistance fighters repeated their attacks on Zionist patrols. They attacked one patrol near Ad-Damur with automatic weapons. The enemy radio admitted this operation, but, as usual, said nothing about casualties.

AFP: No Casualties in Sidon Rocket Attack 25 July

NC252018 Paris AFP in English 2016 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Jerusalem, July 25 (AFP) — Two Soviet-made Katyusha rockets exploded near Israeli army headquarters in the southern

Lebanon coastal city of Sidon today, but no casualties or damage were reported, an Israeli army spokesman said here.

He gave no indication of the source of the rockets, saying the army was combing the area.

Correspondents in Sidon earlier reported one rocket had hit inside the Sidon army compound, but gave no further details.

IDF Continues Redeployment Plan in South

NC260735 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] The Israeli forces are continuing their preparations for implementing the redeployment plan. During the past 2 days logistic and engineering teams were seen supervising the establishment of fortifications and observation posts on the hills overlooking Sidon and along the Al-Awwali River, specifically on Tallat Mar Ilyas, Tallat Sharhabil Bin Hasanah, and Al-Hibaybah. Israeli vehicles were yesterday seen moving toward the south for the third successive day. Observers say that the moves were within the framework of the Israeli forces' redeployment plan.

Travelers to and from Sidon have seen several Israeli bulldozers levelling the land north of the Tallat Sharhabil Bin Hasanah building and the land near it. During the last few days, the Israelis opened a wide road to the area from Al-Bramiyah al-Mikanik. Local residents say the Israeli bulldozers' work and the area of land being levelled near the Tallat [hill] suggest that Israel is building a helicopter landing strip for patrol or surveillance operations or a runway to replace the Ad-Damur airfield, which the Israelis will abandon as part of the redeployment plan. A team of Israeli officers was also seen on Tallat Mar Ilyas near Harat Saida carrying out a field survey of the area.

Clashes Contained; IDF Bans Meat Supplies

NC260742 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Excerpt] At the security level, we note with satisfaction that the wave of violence in the mountain has been contained since midnight, although at 2200 there was a limited setback in 'Alayh and Ash-Shuf that extended to Suq al-Gharb, 'Aytat, Majdlayya, 'Ayn Traz, and Shartun. There was an explosion in the Shtila Circle at 0115 today. A security source said the explosion was not aimed at a business place but it is believed that a bomb or a stick of dynamite was hurled from a passing car.

In an attempt to market Israeli meat in the south, the Israeli forces have banned the import of meat from Beirut and other areas. Israeli checkpoints in Khaldah, Wadi az-Zaynah, and the Al-'Awwali bridge are implementing the decision as of yesterday. They prevented meat transport vehicles from entering the south. Their pretext was that the meat was bad.

3 Suspects in Al-Wazzan Attack Released

NC231330 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Text] The military examining magistrate Dr As'ad Diyab has released three of the five people held in custody on charges of participating in the attempt to assassinate Prime Minister al-Wazzan. The three persons who have been released on bail are all brothers. They are Kamil, Muhammad, and 'Abd Shihab. They work in making licence plates for cars.

Sa'd Haddad Urges Al-Jumayyil To Shell Damascus

JN230636 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Text] Major Haddad, leader of free Lebanon, has said the following:

1. We announce to all that the leader of free Lebanon will grant audiences daily at Khayrallah Salamah Barracks from 0800 to 1000 during the week, except Saturday and Sunday and holidays. The leader hopes that no one will come to him unless he has an urgent reason which cannot wait.

2. We applaud the courage of His Excellency President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil, particularly regarding his warning to the Syrian invaders. We are sure that if he has threatened to return the rocket fire in the direction of Damascus, then he will shell Damascus because he never issues statements lightly and without carrying them out. Undoubtedly he will teach the Syrians an unexpected and unforgettable lesson. He may not wait to give the orders to shell Damascus until he returns. He may have already given his orders from the U.S. capital to start the shelling of the 'Alawite capital.

On our part, we support his excellency's daring move and all his military measures and others which we will carry out against the Syrians, the traditional enemies of Lebanon and all Lebanese. We will place all our capabilities at his disposal toward this honorable end.

Culture Minister Attacks Al-Jumayyil, 'Arafat

JN251752 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1710 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Syrian Culture Minister Najah al-'Attar today strongly criticized Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, threatened Israel, and completed her attack on Yasir 'Arafat.

The Syrian minister accused Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil of having prepared a plan with the Americans during his visit to Washington for waging a war against Syria. The Lebanese forces will begin this war and will be supported by the Lebanese Army later.

In her article in *Tishrin*, Najah al-'Attar said that President al-Jumayyil granted legitimacy to the Israeli occupation through the agreement he signed with the Israelis. The Syrian minister stressed that the basic objective of President al-Jumayyil's visit to the United States has been to seek means for compelling Syria to withdraw its forces from Lebanon. One of these means could be a war which the Lebanese forces would wage against Syria and in which the Lebanese Army would participate. Thus, matters will appear as if the battle were taking place between Lebanon and the foreign forces present in Lebanon with the purpose of forcing these forces to withdraw.

After strongly criticizing President Amin al-Jumayyil, the Syrian minister threatened Israel. She said that Syria is prepared for any military confrontation with Israel, especially since the Arabs will stand by Syria as well as the USSR, which is a loyal friend.

Najah al-'Attar added that Tel Aviv is within the range of the smallest Syrian artillery guns and that Israel's losses will be more than the Israeli generals can imagine, given that the Israeli inhabitants live in a narrow area and cannot avoid Syria's blows.

Najah al-'Attar also strongly criticized Yasir 'Arafat and said that he had committed political suicide when he joined the group which comprises Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salim, leader of the Phalangist Party Pierre al-Jumayyil, terrorist Begin, and criminal Sharon in attacking Syria. She accused Yasir 'Arafat of seeking to liquidate the Palestinian resistance. She said that he has partially lost his balance.

TISHRIN on Purpose of Reagan's Mideast Tour

JN260636 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 26 Jul 83

[From the press review]

[Text] On the dimensions of the U.S. moves, today's newspaper *Tishrin writes: The visit Reagan reportedly will pay to the* Middle East shortly has clear objectives. It is based on the fact that President Reagan will personally supervise the next step of the major and grave plot and will give life to the Reagan plan which has been dealt fatal blows.

Syria, which is loyal to the major pan-Arab cause and is closely watching what is happening, reaffirms that it will not remain idle toward the schemes being drawn up against it. Syria will be forced to adopt what it deems necessary in defense of its existence and security and in defense of the entire Arab nation.

Damascus Commentary on McFarlane Appointment

JN251359 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil has concluded his visit to Washington. Except for the statements and speeches that were made, delivered, and exchanged during the visit, observers do not see any practical and tangible results that will affect the situation in Lebanon in the near future.

According to observers, the only tangible result of this visit was the announcement by U.S. President Ronald Reagan relieving Philip Habib of his post and appointing Robert McFarlane as the U.S. President's personal envoy to the Middle East and Fairbanks as his assistant instead of Draper who was assisting Habib. The U.S President's replacement of his personal envoy is the business of the United States. The owner of the house knows best the qualifications of its inhabitants and their ability to deal with the present realities, the existing problems, and the parties concerned. The United States, by replacing the President's personal envoy, seeks to serve its interests and achieve its objectives. Therefore, the other parties behave in accordance with their interests and select the best means to reach their objectives and the most useful stands to deal with the present or the expected situation.

Philip Habib has gone with the dishonorable page of U.S. policy in the region, with the complete book of the U.S. conspiracy against Lebanon, the Palestinian question, and the Arab nation, and with volumes of deception which reached the level of forgery. The appointment of a new envoy can neither erase the previous actions and behavior of U.S. policy and the activities of the former U.S. envoy, nor convince anyone that U.S. policy has changed just because people have been replaced. We must wait a little to know what the United States has in its quiver and what the new envoy, McFarlane, will carry with him, although the best propagandist in the world cannot carry out the worst policy. There will be differences between McFarlane and Habib in qualifications, personal talents, and methods, but it is too early to judge the new envoy before testing his method, work, and behavior. It is very difficult for any diplomat to carry with him an old and an unsuccessful policy or impractical proposals that have been previously rejected. It is also difficult for him to attempt to persuade others to accept plans and agreements which cannot be implemented, which have previously been condemned, and on which final stands have been taken.

The problem in Lebanon and the Middle East is U.S. policy, which is biased toward Israel in a manner completely provocative and hostile to Arab demands, foremost being the liberation of the occupied territories and the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. U.S. policy is largely responsible for the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, the continued occupation, and the contract of submission, which was imposed on the Lebanese rulers with all its effects on Lebanon's sovereignty and independence, and the security of Syria, and the Arab nation. If U.S. policy continues to adopt its hostile course against the Arabs, to commit itself to the Israeli-Lebanese agreement, to use the invasion operation in order to propagate the Reagan plan, and to put pressure on the Arabs, then there is very little hope that this policy will be better in the future than it was in the past and McFarlane better than Habib.

Ba'th Official Reiterates Stand on Lebanon Accord

JN260705 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] Muhammad Zuhayr Mashariqah, assistant secretary of the Ba'th Party Regional Command, has reaffirmed Syria's firm rejection of the contract of submission the Lebanese Government signed with the Zionist enemy and is intending to impose on Lebanon.

In a speech delivered during a visit to the Ash-Sharif al-Idrisi camp in Damascus yesterday evening, Mashariqah stressed that this agreement will be foiled in the same way previous plots concocted against our nation were foiled.

Comrade Mashariqah then reviewed the vicious imperialist-Zionist-reactionary plots against Syria's steadfastness on the domestic and foreign levels, stressing that our masses and militant party bases will continue their brave confrontation for the sake of foiling all attempts to harm our country's steadfastness and make it deviate from its unwavering pan-Arab and national goals.

AL-BA'TH Says Salvation Front 'Real Legitimacy'

JN251232 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 25 Jul 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The National Salvation Front Is the Birth of Real Legitimacy," *Al-Ba'th* says: More than once since its actual participation in the invasion of Lebanon, the U.S. Administration has found itself at the starting point. As a full partner in all that is designed for the region in terms of charting new maps and redistributing cards, the U.S. Administration pays no attention to the desire of the Arab people to live a free and dignified life with full sovereignty in their vast homeland. By doing so, it exercises full bias toward Israel and its expansionist ambitions, and wagers on its agents and friends in the region.

This U.S. trend, which has always been obstructed by a deadlock, tried to find an outlet without giving up its bias toward Israel. But it failed and returned to the starting point, where it is still lingering. This trend has once again begun looking for a new outlet. However, what do we have on the other hand? Has the U.S. trend, in its disregard for the Arab people's will, reached a point at which it thinks it is the only side capable of doing anything? Certainly not.

On the other side, there is a decision of permanent confrontation embodied by the masses of our nation since the fifties to foil all attempts to place the region at U.S.-Zionist disposal. This decision of confrontation neither yields to dead ends nor looks for its identity and methods of implementation, because it was spontaneously made in Lebanon to resist the Zionist invasion, the normalization of relations attempts, the contract of submission, and the terrorist Phalangist hegemony. This decision survives in the conscience of all honorable citizens, who have carried arms to face the invasion and its Phalangist tools. It is also the decision of loyalists who are working to rescue Lebanon from its tribulation. It is the decision of the overwhelming majority as expressed by the National Salvation Front, whose formation is not a beginning of confrontation but an organization of effective and ceaseless confrontation until the agreement and the tools seeking its implementation are toppled. This confrontation will not lay down arms except after Lebanon achieves its national salvation, recovers its vigor, restores the unity of its land and people, and liberates itself from the Zionist invaders' filth.

The declaration of the National Salvation Front means the birth of real legitimacy in Lebanon, because legitimacy is the overwhelming majority and not that minority which has chosen agentry as trend and method. This should be realized by the Reagan administration and the Lebanese Government, who are ignoring it and thus returning to the starting point. This return applies to them only because the decision of national confrontation is permanent and continuing.

Al-Kasm Receives Castro's Message to Al-Asad

JN251754 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm received at 1900 this evening Levi Farah, Cuban minister of construction [title as heard], and his delegation. The meeting was attended by the Cuban ambassador in Damascus. During the meeting the Cuban minister gave the prime minister a message from President Fidel Castro to President Hafiz al-Asad. The talks dealt with the current situation in the region.

Ba'th Official Returns From Libyan Festival

JN260707 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 26 JUL 83

[Excerpt] The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party delegation led by Comrade Tawfiq Salihah, Ba'th Party Regional Command member and party regional organization bureau chairman, returned to Damascus early this morning after participating in the popular festival held by the Secretariat of the General People's Committee in Tripoli, Libya on the 31st anniversary of the Egyptian 23 July Revolution.

Ba'th Official, Minister Receive U.S. Students

JN251412 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1240 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Damascus, 25 Jul (SANA) — Comrade Muhammad Haydar, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command and chief of the Foreign Relations Bureau, has affirmed that the policy the United States is adopting in the

Middle East is not in the interests of the American people. During his meeting today with a delegation of a U.S. professors and students currently visiting Syria, Comrade Haydar said that through its support for the Zionist aggression on Arab territories, the United States does not serve world peace and security. Comrade Hadar also explained to the guest delegation recent developments in the region and the party's stand on various Arab and international issues.

Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs, also received the delegation this afternoon and explained to it the stages of the Arab-Israeli conflict, recent developments in the region, and Syria's stand on them.

Begin, Shamir, Arens Meet Prior to U.S. Trip

TA251710 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] This afternoon the prime minister held a meeting with the foreign minister and the defense minister in preparation for their departure for Washington for meetings with administration leaders. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer points out that the ministers were not authorized to alter the Cabinet resolution on the redeployment in Lebanon, and that if the U.S. Administration raises proposal to postpone the redeployment, the proposals will be brought to the Cabinet for a decision next week.

Comments Prior to Departure

TA260524 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] The government's decision on the IDF redeployment in Lebanon is the first move toward implementing the agreement with Lebanon. This was said last night by Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in a joint news conference with the defense minister prior to their departure for the United States for meetings with U.S. Administration leaders. Our correspondent Beni Rom attended the news conference at Ben-Gurion Airport:

[Begin recording] [Rom] We are leaving for Washington, the foreign minister said, at the invitation of the U.S. President in order to have a discussion on ways to solve the numerous problems in Lebanon which threaten peace and stability throughout the entire region.

[Shamir] We think that the best way to overcome the problems is through close and faithful cooperation among the Lebanese, Israeli, and U.S. Governments which will be manifested in joint efforts to implement the agreement achieved on 17 May between Israel and Lebanon with the participation of the United States. If we achieve this cooperation, we have no doubt this will prove to Syria that by its rejectionist position it cannot undermine the existence of the Lebanese Government, nor can it cancel the agreement signed between Lebanon and us, which should be the cornerstone in arranging relations in the region.

[Rom] Defense Minister Arens totally rejected reports that he and the foreign minister were compelled to leave for the United States by the U.S. President. In the course of the talks in Washington, the defense minister said, we will discuss all joint Israeli- U.S. issues in the security and political spheres. [end recording]

Arens: No Pressure Anticipated

TA251332 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1318 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] The defense minister does not expect pressure from the United States for a postponement of the withdrawal in Lebanon. Appearing before the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, Moshe Arens said: I am convinced that agreement will be found on the matters of principle. If there is no agreement, he added, we will not surrender to pressure.

Arens pointed out that the invitation to Washington should not be regarded either as improper or as an ultimatum. As for the situation in Lebanon, he said, our only goal was to safeguard the people of the State of Israel. It was impossible to build a Great Wall of China around us, he said. The defense minister estimated that the cost of the new deployment in Lebanon would total about $60 million.

At the session, MK Yitzhaq Rabin said the Cabinet had put the nation under the delusion that terrorism would be finally eliminated. Get your heads out of the clouds, Rabin said; it is impossible to obtain all the objectives in Lebanon.

Our correspondent Gil'ad Mishori reported this from the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

Begin Calls for Patience on Lebanon Situation

TA260909 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 26 Jul 83

[TEXT] The prime minister says that the situation in Lebanon is tragic but that patience should be exercised. He requested the members of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee to wait until the foreign and defense ministers return from Washington. The prime minister opened the discussion in the committee with a few sentences and concluded it with a brief speech.

Begin Regrets Habib Departure, Welcomes McFarlane

TA231611 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Text] Israel regrets that Philip Habib is retiring from his Middle East mission, but welcomes his replacement, Robert McFarlane. This was said by Prime Minister Menahem Begin's spokesman to the REUTER correspondent in Tel Aviv. The spokesman said that the Israeli prime minister regards Habib as one of the most outstanding diplomats he has ever met. In many ways, we will miss Habib, the Israeli spokesman said.

Peres on Lebanon, Soviet Middle East Role

TA221812 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1605 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Interview with Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres by moderator Yeshayahu Ben-Porat, Military correspondent Sha'ul Stav, and *Ma'ariv* correspondent Avi Bettelheim on biweekly "Gentlemen the Press" program in the Tel Aviv studio — live]

[Excerpts] [Bettelheim] About Lebanon, the Alignment has always supported maximum coordination with the Americans. If you were the prime minister, Mr Peres, how would you act in view of the substantive differences of opinion between us and the United States regarding the redeployment in Lebanon?

[Peres] It sometimes seems to me that the Americans are trying to coordinate with us, and not just we with them. But to my great regret it is not always clear to the Americans what we actually want. Coordination is not getting dictates from the United States. The United States, Abba Eban has already said, gave us three proposals: The first was not to enter Lebanon; the second, not to stay in Lebanon; and the third, not to leave Lebanon. With which of those proposals am I to coordinate? At this moment, in my opinion, both governments are groping in the dark. The first thing required for coordination with the United States is an Israeli policy. I am saying that Israel does not have a policy. How can it coordinate with the United States?

[Ben-Porat] This week, however, a decision was made about...

[Peres, interrupting] About what?

[Ben-Porat] About a partial withdrawal.

[Peres] A partial withdrawal was decided this week? In my opinion, an overall decision should be made and carried out in stages. Decisions should not be made in stages, in which you do not know what the next stage will be. The government must ask itself the piercing question: Are we going to stay in Lebanon or part of it, or not? And on this basis a plan should be drawn up. However, if every time you want to move from 'Alayh, or this or that point, you turn to the Americans, I do not see what answer you will get. We have to come up with a clear and comprehensive plan, to be implemented in stages. And I am telling you that Washington will also go along with us on that.

[Stav] Mr Peres, what comprehensive decision would you make on Lebanon?

[Peres] We adopted a resolution that Lebanon should be evacuated in two phases. In the first phase, the eastern and central sectors, the Ash-Shuf mountains, and the Beirut area should be evacuated. This should be done in a few days — one should not wait. This morning, again, 11 of our soldiers were wounded near 'Alayh. For what? What do we have to do in 'Alayh?

In the second phase, we should organize ourselves in the security zone for 2 or 3 months — not longer — and announce explicitly that we are going to leave Lebanon. During those 2 months, we should expand Haddad's forces, the area he is responsible for, place the Lebanese at the northern borders of that area, and put UNIFIL beside the refugee camps. The IDF will keep up those activities vital for keeping an eye on southern Lebanon — sea and air patrols, and if there is a need, land patrols too from time to time, as we used to do. But we should not stay permanently and create another West Bank for ourselves, with 750,000 Arabs.

[Bettleheim] Will the tools you are describing ensure that the Syrians and the PLO do not follow in the IDF's footsteps?

[Peres] Look, I cannot promise anything. All those things I said are logical. Let us say they do follow in its footsteps. Do you want us to remain in Lebanon? You have to ask yourself what things concern you. First of all, let us say that they do move. Do you want to stay in Lebanon forever? In my view, they will not move. In my view, if you put the Lebanese Army and the multinational force opposite the line of confrontation with the Syrians, that is a red line. And I do not believe that the Syrians will be so happy to move. I know that the partitioning of Lebanon is being discussed. Whoever wants to divide Lebanon must divide his army between two fronts. I am against the division of our army.

[Ben-Porat] You are speaking of a red line — not outlined in any agreement between Israel and Syria and the other parties — by virtue of the very fact that a multinational force is there together with the Lebanese Army. And then the Syrians will hesitate to attack?

[Peres] Yes, of course. What kind of question is that?

[Stav] Mr Peres, about negotiations with King Husayn, is it possible in your view to include the Soviet Union in a conference on a comprehensive solution, in other words, try to approach negotiations with Jordan from a different direction?

[Peres] No, I think that that would not be good because the Soviet Union has a dispute with the United States. So, first of all, we would have another dispute to resolve. Second, the Soviet Union systematically supports every Arab position. So if we want to make concessions to the Arabs, let us make them directly. Why through Moscow? Why pay the middleman?

[Stav] Perhaps to ease somewhat the Syrian pressure on Jordan?

[Peres] That will not ease Syrian pressure, because if the Soviet Union is included, I promise you it will immediately request a discussion of the Golan Heights as well. And if you want to discuss all the subjects, then you will reach a situation in which you will be unable to discuss any subject.

UNIFIL Spokesman on Relations with IDF

TA251447 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Excerpts] The UNIFIL spokesman has rejected accusations that the force's soldiers are collaborating with terrorists, hindering the movement of IDF soldiers, and gathering information on IDF posts in Lebanon. Tension has increased recently between soldiers of the Netherlands unit on the one hand and IDF soldiers and local militia on the other. Our correspondent in the north Gabi Zohar reports:

[Begin recording] Relations between UNIFIL soldiers and IDF and local militia soldiers can be summed up in one phrase: a cold war, because of a different conception and conflicting interests. UNIFIL views the events of the last week as a chain of errors and misinterpretations by the IDF.

The UNIFIL spokesman said this morning that the recent incidents involved a small number of soldiers and did not result from directives from UNIFIL headquarters. He also interpreted in this way the incidents between the soldiers of the Netherlands unit and the IDF, two of which we will mention here. In one, Netherlands soldiers photographed an IDF position in Sidon, and in the other a Netherlands roadblock, for the first time since the war, considerably delayed a senior officer in southern Lebanon. The UNIFIL spokesman also said that the force cannot guard every kilometer in southern Lebanon, just as the IDF cannot either. He therefore rejected the accusation that UNIFIL soldiers are collaborating with the terrorists.

Speaking about the members of the local militias, the spokesman said that their activity is illegal, and that the Lebanese authorities have asked UNIFIL to prevent it.

Security sources in the north told me that too many incidents — especially in the area controlled by the Netherlands unit — have occurred over the last week for the IDF to regard them as errors. The IDF hopes that it was only the absence of the UNIFIL commander — and nothing else — that caused relations to worsen, and that it will be possible to straighten the differences out when he returns to Lebanon.

Regarding the UNIFIL attitude toward the local militias, the IDF claims that the UNIFIL headquarters is misinterpreting its mandate. Why were the UNIFIL soldiers careful to maintain neutrality in every case before the Lebanon war, the IDF asks, while now they insist on acting against the civil guards in the villages of southern Lebanon, which are trying to preserve peace and quiet in the area?

Liaison officers between the IDF and UNIFIL will try in the coming days to resolve the two sides' differences. Meanwhile, it is clear to all the sides that the status of the UN force, whose mandate expires in about 3 months, will have to be determined in accordance with the situation in the field. Otherwise, the relations between UNIFIL and the IDF and the militias in southern Lebanon will deteriorate even more. [end recording]

Two killed, Others Wounded in Hebron Incident

TA261109 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] Two inhabitants of Hebron were killed and 10 wounded, all of them apparently students of the town's college. Our correspondent Shalom Oren reports that a car stopped at the college gate and shots were fired from it at the building. Later stones were thrown at Qiryat Arba' ambulance. There are no more details for the time being.

Curfew Imposed

TA261121 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1114 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] We have just received a report of 2 killed and 40 wounded in the shooting incident in the Islamic College of Hebron. The reports that have reached us from Hebron say that several armed, masked men entered the courtyard of the Islamic College of Hebron this morning and fired shots in all directions there. As we said, after the shots in the college courtyard, 2 were killed and 40 wounded were taken to the 'Alya Hospital in Hebron. A curfew has been imposed on Hebron. All roads to the area have been closed off. The security forces are now carrying out widescale combing there and we will continue to update you, as stated.

Delegation Returns From Moscow, Transmits Warning

TA260540 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] The members of the Israeli delegation which returned from the Soviet Union yesterday said they received a clear warning that the Soviets will intervene if Israel tries to attack Syria or the new modern missiles. A delegation member, Aharon Har'el, reported that Yevgeniy Primakov, one of the Soviet Middle East policymakers, was the one who transmitted this message. The delegation members also believe there is no chance of renewing diplomatic ties with the Soviet Union in the near future.

Archaeology Bill Passed; Opposition Protests

TA260528 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] The coalition last night averted a crisis over the archaeology law by passing it on first reading at midnight. Alignment whip Moshe Shahal charged the coalition with illegally bringing up the proposal in the dark of night. He said he would take the matter to the Supreme Court.

During the voting, opposition members walked out of the Knesset in protest. Tehiya Minister Yuval Ne'eman also called the coalition action an ugly parliamentary trick and said that he would oppose the law when it comes up for a second reading. Agudate Yisra'el Knesset member Menahem Porush said his party would not press for a second reading of the bill for the time being.

Also passed on first reading was a large families law. The bill is expected to go to the Knesset legal committee rather than the Labor Committee headed by Porush. He was expected to scuttle the law because it provides payment only for families headed by army veterans. His Agudat Yisra'el constituency includes many people who do not serve in the army.

Speaker Resigns in Protest

TA260935 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0920 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Report from the Knesset Plenum by Sha'ul Stav — live]

[Text] Good day to you. Two dramatic events have taken place here these past few minutes. Knesset Speaker Menahem Savidor announced the cancellation of the Knesset decision from yesterday which passed the archeology law in a preliminary reading. Another dramatic announcement was by Knesset Depuyt Speaker Me'ir Kohen-Avidov, who announced a few minutes ago that he resigned from his position as deputy speaker due to the disagreement with Savidor.

Savidor opened his remarks as follows: Yesterday this house was gravely humiliated, and unlike any precedent in the past a clause which was clearly decided to be included on the agenda only today was introduced to the agenda yesterday. I, as Knesset speaker, Savidor said, am in charge of the honor of this house. He went on to say: I considered this matter; all legal advisers tell me I am not authorized to rescind yesterday's vote, but I view yesterday's vote as illegal and by standards of natural justice I declare this vote as null and void.

In other words, Knesset Speaker Savidor admitted he was informed by the legal advisers he is not empowered to cancel yesterday's vote but that, according to the above standards, he declared the vote null and void. Savidor said: Anybody who tells me I am not acting according to the law — and I am not sure this is the case — let his appeal to the High Court of Justice and complain about the Knesset speaker. I am stating, Savidor said, that yesterday's vote was humiliating, debasing and wrong and I am canceling it.

In view of his dramatic announcement, the Knesset speaker has now allowed other Knesset members to have the floor and express their opinion. As said, the Knesset deputy speaker has announced his resignation and Ehud Olmert is now delivering his speech from the Knesset podium.

Rabin To Seek Labor Party Leadership

TA251018 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Yitzhaq Rabin has decided to vie for the position of Alignment candidate for prime minister if the Knesset elections are held early. Our Knesset correspondent Tzvi Yisre'eli reports that Rabin made this announcement at the Alignment faction executive meeting this morning. He said that if the TAMI faction proposes dissolving the Knesset and holding early elections, he will support holding them in December. In his view, a majority can be mustered for such a proposal with the help of TAMI and MKs Zeigerman and Berman.

Rabin accused Peres of wanting to hold elections in October to prevent a legitimate contest for the Alignment leadership. I do not accept that, and I am announcing that I will compete, Rabin said. When Ra'anan Na'im commented that he was constantly creating an atmosphere of struggle in the party, Rabin replied: When I was prime minister, Peres did not leave me alone for even 1 day.

When his friends reminded him of Mikha'el Bar-Zohar's warning that the party would turn its back on both him and Peres and chose another leader, Rabin responded with derision. Our correspondent notes that Shim'on Peres did not attend the meeting.

No decision was made at the end of the meeting about moving up the election date. The faction chairman said that the faction executive was not the place for discussing this matter, but that it should be discussed in the party's institutions.

Meanwhile, the Alignment has decided to submit a moiion of nonconfidence over what it terms the government's economic and social blunders. Our correspondent says that the motion will be discussed on Wednesday, the last day of the summer session, before the Knesset adjourns for its recess.

More news from the Alignment: The Labor Party will insist that in negotiations with Jordan the Jordan River be fixed as Israel's permanent border and that the Jordan Valley be placed under Israeli sovereignty. Our correspondent Asher Schwartz reports that party Secretary Hayim Bar-Lev said this at a meeting with inhabitants of the valley. He urged the government to pidgeonhole what he called the foolish idea of settling Arab refugees in the border area of the Jordan valley, and instead to devote resources to the area's development.

Three Motions of No Confidence on 27 July

TA260930 Tel Aviv Davar in Hebrew 26 Jul 83 p 2

[Text] Tomorrow, 27 July, the Knesset is to dabate three separate motions of no confidence in the government.

The leadership of the Alignment faction decided yesterday that MK Rafi Edri would raise its motion of no confidence in the government because of "the government's blunders and policy in the socioeconomic sphere." The HADASH and Shinuy factions have also submitted motions of no confidence in the government against the background of the economic-social policy.

TAMI Submits Bill To Dissolve Knesset

TA252013 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] The TAMI faction has just submitted to the Knesset secretariat a bill to dissolve the Knesset and hold elections on 25 October. Earlier it was reported that the prime m inister had asked MK Aharon Abu-Hatzera to postpone submitting the bill for several hours and that Abu-Hatzera had agreed.

Agricultural Assistance Slated for Zaire

TA260752 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] Israel will set up an agricultural training center in Zaire and give Zairian students 30 school grants per year. They will study agriculture and rural development in Israel. An agreement on this has been signed in Kinshasa.

Israel Joins International Purchasing Body

TA260928 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 26 Jul 83 p 4

[Text] Israel's membership in the international governmental purchasing group [aman Hamemshaltit Habenle'umit Lerekhishot] became valid from the beginning of July. From now on, local exporters will be able to compete on equal terms for the implementation of work at the invitation of governmental institutions in foreign countries.

The ministry of Industry's department for foreign commerce is now holding conferences and meetings for exporters and industrialists as part of the preparations for the incorporation of Israeli exporters into international bids by countries in Europe and the United States.

Work Under Way on New Nuclear Reactor, Fuel

TA241358 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 24 Jul 83 p 1

[Report by Avraham Peleg]

[Text] Researchers at the Nuclear Engineering Department at Ben-Gurion University in the Negev are developing a reactor that will operate on nuclear fuel that is a mixture of uranium and thorium. This development has several advantages: The fuel is twice as efficient as the nuclear fuel used today and such a reactor is not a source of plutonium, the fissionable [baqi'a] substance used for making nuclear bombs.

The new technology is the brainchild of Ben-Gurion University Nuclear Engineering Department researcher Professor Alvin (Radkovski), who built the nuclear reactor for the first U.S. nuclear submarine, the "Nautilus." According to his plan, these reactors will be built using a mixture of uranium and thorium, instead of uranium 235. They will have no military potential.

Two groups of researchers are now working on the new fuel and reactor at Ben-Gurion University. Part of the funds for the research was put up by a group of U.S. Jewish investors, which received a glowing opinion in favor of the new technology from Professors Edward Teller, (Hans Bita), and (Brite Wigner), all of the United States.

The nuclear fuel will be tested in Germany and the United States. When the research, development, and tests are completed, work will begin on building a nuclear power station.

Lake Chad Basin Commission Meeting Opens

Session Called by Nigeria

AB230800 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Excerpt] An emergency meeting of the Lake Chad Basin Commission will be held in Lagos today. The meeting, which will be held under the auspices of the Federal Ministry of Water Resources, is to work out and define the borders between the four basin countries as well as recommend ways of ensuring security along the borders. The four countries that make up the commission are Nigeria, Niger, Chad, and Cameroon.

The decision to hold the meeting was taken by President Shehu Shagari in his capacity as the current chairman of the Lake Chad Basin Commission.

Nigerian Recommends Border Delimitation

AB221446 Lagos NAN in English 0710 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Text] Lagos, 22 Jul (NAN) — The minister of water resources, Dr. Emmanuel Atanu, yesterday in Lagos said that there was an urgent need to delimitate the borders among the four member-states of the Lake Chad Basin Commission.

The minister said at the opening of an extra-ordinary session of the commission that undefined borders were abnormal situations which created irritating incidents that could lead to disastrous consequences.

Dr. Atanu, who is the chairman of the meeting, urged the participants to work out the necessary guidelines for the delimitation of borders, and to establish a common framework within which the general security of the basin area could be guaranteed.

Present at the opening were representatives of Chad, Cameroon, and the host country, Nigeria. Delegates from Niger Republic were still being expected.

ALGERIA

Reports on Al-Qadhdhafi's Visit to Algiers

Arrives 24 July

LD251202 Tripoli JANA in English 1000 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Algiers, Shawwal 15, July 25, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The revolutionary leader arrived at 17.40 Jamahiriyah time yesterday at Houari Boumediene International Airport on a working visit to Algeria as part of the pan-Arab moves of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution to concentrate and unite the resources of the Arab nation in a bid to confront the American powered Zionist death wagon.

The leader was given a big reception that was headed by President Chadli Bendjedid. The reception was also attended by the chairman of the Algerian People's Council, Politburo members and the secretaries and members of the Libyan Brotherhood Bureau in Algiers.

After inspecting the guard of honour and standing in attention to both countries' national anthems, the revolution's leader then shook hands with his welcomers.

The leader made a statement to pressmen at Houari Boumediene Airport in which he expressed delight about visiting Algeria once again. He said, "Every time I visit my second country Algeria and meet with my brethren the Algerian revolution's freedom fighters and the people, I feel I am amongst my family and in my home."

The leader said his visit comes in the midst of difficult times facing the Arab nation as a result of the (?U.S.) imperialist backed Zionist military onslaught. He said U.S. imperialism is the true enemy of the Arab nation, threatening its future and its security.

He said Algeria waged a glorious battle against French imperialism sacrificing more than a million martyrs. He said Algeria will continue with its revolution and is willing to sacrifice further martyrs to destroy Zionism and liberate Arab soil, enabling us to stand together against U.S. imperialism and to impose on it respect for the Arab nation.

(?The) leader said that with the new sacrifices, he [words indistinct] of the Arab nation is in danger because the Zionist death wagon is descending upon us country by country, home by home...

He said the hour of danger has struck and the time for confrontation has come. He said anyone who does not respond to the call for confrontation casts upon himself a sentence of obliteration. Therefore, he added, we are faced either by confrontation or annihilation. He said: "We have opted for confrontation and this is what I want. [Words indistinct] this hour to the brotherly Algerian people...

The leader left Nouakchott yesterday afternoon amidst a warm popular and official farewell as crowds from the capital and neighbouring areas gathered outside despite extremely hot weather conditions to see the leader off [words indistinct] along the road leading to the airport.

Among those (?gathered) to bid the leader farewell was Mohamed Ould Maydala, the chairman of the Military Council for National Salvation, Colonel Maayouia Ould Sidi Ahmed Taya, the prime minister and the minister of national defence and members of the Military Committee for National Salvation as well as other Cabinet members, heads of trade unions, federations and organizations, the secretary of the Libyan Brotherhood Bureau in Nouakchott, the heads of diplomatic missions and members of the Arab Libyan community in Mauritania.

Gives Press Statement

LD251212 Algiers APS in English 1002 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Algiers, 25/7/83 (APS) — Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, flew in on Sunday for a work visit in Algiers. He was greeted by President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic, FLN Party secretary general.

In a statement to the press, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said his visit comes at a time when the Arab nation is going through a difficult conjuncture due to the U.S. imperialism-backed Zionist escalation.

He further indicated that the Algerian people who led a victorious struggle against colonialism to take its independence would carry on its struggle to face dangers that threaten the Arab nation. He expressed, in this connection, his conviction that the Algerian people are ready to make heaviest sacrifices to defend the Arab nation.

Talks With Bendjedid Start

LD250805 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] The Algerian-Libyan political talks started yesterday evening at summit level between President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the party, and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution. The talks were attended on the Algerian side by brother members of the Political Bureau: Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, official in charge of the Central Committee's Permanent Secretariat; and Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, the minister of foreign affairs; and on the Libyan side by 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, secretary for foreign liaison.

Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi arrived in Algeria yesterday afternoon on a working visit. On arrival he made a statement in which he stressed that this visit comes at a difficult stage through which the Arab nation is passing as a result of the Zionist march backed by American imperialism. The fate of the Arab nation is endangered; therefore, the hour of action and [word indistinct] has struck.

Meets With Officials

LD252345 Algiers APS in Arabic 2300 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] A meeting was held this afternoon at Zughud Yusuf Palace between Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, who was accompanied by Brother Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Political Bureau, who is in charge of the Central Committee Permanent Secretariat, and the strugglers of the FLN Party and the People's National Assembly and the mass organizations.

On this occasion Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi analyzed the situation of the Arab nation.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Telegram to Tunisia's Bourguiba

LD221643 Tripoli JANA in English 1415 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Text] Tripoli, Shawal 12, July 22/JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader has sent a telegram to President Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia in answer to a telegram received by him. It reads as follows:

I was pleased to receive your telegram which was an important response to the joint achievement of our two brotherly people culminating in the plans and projects agreed upon in the first historic meeting.

This advance task between our two sister countries requires your continued support and unrelenting guidance for it to bear fruit. By doing so we have laid the ground for a strong union based on integration until full unity is achieved.

Your guidance to the Tunisian ministers had the effect of making the work of the higher committee a success.

May you long live as a father to guide this test of unity and may you prosper in good health.

Forward we march and the struggle continues until all the aims of the great Arab nation in freedom socialism and full unity are realised.

Syrian Party Official Arrives, Makes Statement

LD221826 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1725 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Text] Tripoli, 22 Jul (JANA) — Tawfiq Salhah, member of the Regional Command of the Syrian Socialist Ba'th Party, arrived in Tripoli this morning on a visit to Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

In a statement to JANA he said that the purpose of his visit is to discuss the current conditions through which the Arab nation is passing in light of the designs of American imperialism and Zionism and their agents. He said that these aggressive designs have come in implementation of the traitorous Camp David agreements. The capitulationist deal that the United States has imposed on Lebanese authority constitutes a link in the chain of the Camp David agreements. He expressed his confidence in the Arab masses' ability to stand fast and foil all designs hostile to the Arab nation.

With regard to the meetings of the Libyan-Tunisian joint committee, Brother Salhah said that they constitute a positive step on the road to a comprehensive Arab unity. He added that Syria supports any unionist meeting between any two fraternal countries in order to amass energies to throw into the battle with the enemy.

Staff Major Jallud Addresses Festival

LD241642 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Excerpts] Tripoli, 24 Jul (JANA) — Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud yesterday evening attended the popular festival held by the revolution forces to celebrate the 31st anniversary of the immortal 23 July Revolution, which was triggered by the free officers under the leadership of the immortal leader Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir.

The festival was attended by Brother Tawfiq Salhah, member of the Regional Command of the Syrian Socialist Ba'th Party, and Brother Taysir Qubba'h, member of the PFLP Political Bureau, who are visiting the Jamahiriyah, and huge masses of Arab citizens and brothers in the Jamahiriyah.

Brother Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud delivered a speech at the festival. He began by saluting the 23 July Revolution which triggered the revolutionary national consciousness in the Arab nation.

He stressed that the steadfastness of Syria, the Lebanese patriotic movement, and the real revolutionary force in the Palestinian revolution, especially the new revolutinary movement in Fatah, has changed the entire scene. He said that America, whose megalomania motivated it to flex its muscles and try all means of destruction against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples, thought when it entered Beirut that the way was paved to liquidate the Palestinian revolution, liquidate the Arab revolutionary movement, and silence the Palestinian gun. However, the steadfastness of Syria, the Palestinian national movement, and the new revolutionary movement in Fatah has changed the entire scene. Now the friends of Israel say that Lebanon is the graveyard of the Zionists, and advise it to withdraw from Lebanon.

He said that all Arab revolutionaries and nationalists from the ocean to the Gulf must pledge today to regain Egypt by any means. An alliance with the great Egyptian people, with its patriotic forces of farmers, workers, students, youth, soldiers, and intellectuals, is essential.

Staff Maj Jallud stressed in his speech that Egypt's return to the Arab nation has become necessary to Arab national security, pointing out that the U.S. policy drafted by Dulles is based on removing Egypt from of the battle, making it sign a peace treaty with the Zionists, isolating it, and severing its relations with the Arab nation. Unfortunately all this has been achieved, and Egypt's fate has become a matter of life and death.

Staff Maj 'Abd as-Salam Jallud stressed that the emergence of the new revolutionary movement in Fatah was natural. It did not happen through incitement from Libya or Syria. They did not come to us or consult us. But after what happened in Beirut and the philosophy of defeat through which the organization tried to justify its positions, which was nonsense, the answer was a true revolutionary movement in Fatah, which I think is the answer for every free Palestinian, for every free Arab.

He said that it is not a matter of personalities or of love or hatred of some persons. It is a question of the fate and destiny of a nation. It is inconceivable after what happened in Sabra and Shatilah that such a revolution would not take place in the Fatah movement.

He explained that the revolutionary movement in Fatah is the natural outcome of the tragic state reached by the Palestinian revolution and of the deviation, collapse, and grave treason that it has reached. This movement, with Syria's steadfastness and with the Lebanese resistance, form the only spots of light remaining in this darkned reality. We, as revolutionaries and as a live force, are always optimistic, because we are the force of life. However things might look, we feel that dawn is arriving with God's help and we see real hope in the daring operations in Lebanon, for it is not easy for the American ambassador in Saudi Arabia to say that unless Israel withdraws from Lebanon, it will be its graveyard.

He stressed that Syria's steadfastness and the new revolutionary movement in Fatah and the Lebanese resistance have changed reality and that the picture now is not bad because of these three aspects, whose basis is the strong inciting voice represented in the Libyan people and the Great 1 September Revolution.

Staff Maj Jallud explained that there is a conspiracy against Syria, against the Palestinian revolution, and against Lebanon. But I would like to stress a very important historic fact on this great historic day, which is that the Lebanese people have paid dearly for the Palestinian revolution, which made them into a fighting people and made them fight now. Without the Palestinian revolution, the Lebanese people would not have been transformed into a fighting people and there would not be a patriotic movement.

Staff Maj Jallud also explained that there are also conspiracies against the Libyan people. Unfortunately, reactionary regimes such as the Egyptian regime, which is a tool of America, and Sudan and African reactionary regimes and America and France are participating in these conspiracies. Why? Because they do not want it to dedicate itself to the national issue and they want to create obstacles for it. They are now conspiring from Chad. But we say to them that this revolution, the people's revolution, the Libyan people's revolution, the national revolution, was created to stay and it can defeat them and defeat any power because it emanates from the people.

Staff Maj Jallud also explained that we would like the struggle in Chad to be an internal struggle for power among the Chadian factions. But the imperialist forces and the reactionary forces have transformed this struggle from a local African struggle into an international struggle. It started to form a serious conspiracy against the Libyan people, concerning which the Libyan people cannot stay silent, because Chad's security influences to a great extent the security of the Libyan people. In fact Mobutu's intervention in Chad is a manifestation of French-American intervention. After all, when the revolutinary movement was triggered against Mobutu, he did not have any army. He asked for help and was rescued. The decision is not Mobutu's. They cannot fool us because this intervention came as a result of a reactionary American-French decision with Mobutu as a tool who is also penniless and unable to afford the cost of these forces. So they are not Mobutu's forces and the Libyan people must know this. When the struggle in Chad was transformed from a local to an international struggle, the issue took on other dimensions.

Staff Maj Jallud said that we are warning against the struggle in Chad taking on international dimensions because if it does the problem will get more complicated, and if it takes the form of conspiracies against the Libyan and the Chadian people, then the Libyan people will not stand with arms folded in face of this threat. Staff Maj Jallud pointed to the statement of the mutinous Habre, his minister of information, and his foreign minister concerning Aozou. He stressed that Aozou is a part of Libyan territory. And then there is Habre's impertinence, or the impertinence of the imperialist forces which impose themselves in order to conspire against the Libyan people. We say that the natural borders of Libya are the tops of the Tibesti mountains. The treaties that Italy signed with France in 1935 confirm this legal right.

MAURITANIA

Al-Qadhdhafi Discusses Arab Unity in Nouakchott

LD242304 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Text] Mauritanian radio and television, the news agency, and *Ash-Sha'b have carried a press interview given by the brother* leader of the revolution before his departure from Nouakchott at noon today. In this interview the brother leader spoke about the importance of the comprehensive Arab unity of the masses in confronting the Zionist death wagon which is overtaking the Arab nation country by country and house by house, and about the outcome of the working visit which he paid to the Republic of Mauritania.

The brother leader of the revolution stressed that the best way to tackle the current Arab situation is through all-round Arab unity which will make the Arab homeland into a deterrent Arab force. He said that we are compelled either to accept extinction or to confront the Zionist-imperialist danger, pointing out that in the event of the outbreak of a new battle with the enemy during which the Syrian trench falls, God forbid, the Zionist enemy backed by America will occupy the entire Arab East and will then turn to North Africa until it reaches Mauritania via Libya and Algeria.

The brother leader explained that the strategic plans of the Zionist enemy are aimed at the emigration of millions of Jews from various parts of the world and their settlement in the Arab homeland after ousting the Arab inhabitants from their homes so that they could be replaced by millions of the Israeli immigrants. He asserted that the Arab nation is being exposed to a genuine danger surrounding it from the ocean to the Gulf and that unless we seriously confront this danger it is threatened with extinction. He said that the concern over the fate of the Arab nation and his departure to the Arab countries, including Mauritania and Algeria, to urge them to carry out comprehensive and immediate mobilization, is for the sake of confronting the Zionist death wagon and American imperialism, which supplies the Israelis with the means to destroy the Arab nation.

In his meeting with the Mauritanian reporters the brother leader of the revolution explained that the Arab nation is called upon to defend its presence on its land by amassing its huge resources, stressing that it has no alternative but to amass such capacities and enter into battle. He said that any Arab regime which fails to do this passes a death sentence on itself. This is an appeal to all the Arab brothers to carry out comprehensive immediate mobilization and to destroy the Zionist death wagon which is driven by American energy.

On the outcome of the working visit which he paid to Mauritania, the brother leader said we have achieved common understanding covering the basic issues which concern the Arab nation and which are in the interest to the bilateral relations between the Jamahiriyah and Mauritania, noting that there are no problems which need deliberation between Libya and Mauritania because the questions currently at issue are how to amass the resources of the Arab nation — bilateral and pan-Arab — to confront the common enemy. He said that the bilateral relations between the two fraternal countries have been consolidated and that during this working visit a remarkable basis was laid down. We have reached a basis on action for unity which will be crowned, God willing, in the future in the achievement of unity.

In his statement to the Mauritanian reporters, the brother leader added that regular meetings between the executive and popular bodies and the revolutionary leaderships in the two countries will be held in the future so that unity will be achieved.

The brother leader saluted the efforts being made to resolve the difficult problems facing Mauritania and said that Mauritania, which has very limited resources, will not be able to solve its numerous problems alone and that the best way to solve these problems is in its merging with any form of Arab unity, stressing that the Arab unity is a necessity for this nation.

The brother leader explained that the Mauritanian people should seek unity even from the purely economic aspect in view of their limited resources and that when resources are limited it is impossible to solve economic problems, particularly when the population increases, migration increases, and drought increases, stressing that Mauritania is in dire need of uniting with one or more Arab states at the economic level.

The brother leader said that no Arab state individually can confront the Zionist and imperialist challenges. The leader of the revolution noted that the joint action which was founded between the Jamahiriyah and Mauritania, namely the meeting of the General People's Committee and the Mauritanian Council of Ministers and the regular meetings which will be held among the masses' cadres and the revolutionary leaderships in the two countries, is bound to develop the economic relations so that integration is achieved between the two countries and consequently the unity which we are seeking is achieved.

The brother leader emphasized that the Arab homeland needs a single political movement to unite it, and that the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah encourages economic orientation in preparation for comprehensive unity. It rejects all attempts aimed at dividing the Arab homeland, as is the case now between Egypt and Sudan, which they call the unity of the Nile Valley, stressing that we believe in any unity between two or more peoples when this unity is a step on the road to comprehensive Arab unity.

The brother leader called on the Arab nation to rush and support the Lebanese resistance so that it can turn into a popular war of liberation that would force the Zionist enemy to withdraw from Lebanon forcibly and unconditionally; and also to support the revolution within Fatah under the command of Abu Salih [Nimr Salih] because it will lead to the emergence of a fighting and united Palestinian movement.

At the end of his press interview with the Mauritanian information media, the brother leader stressed that the Arab masses are now called upon to stand behind the Palestinian resistance and the courageous Lebanese resistance inside Lebanon and on the side of Syria so that Syria does not fall militarily and that this is the responsibility of the Arab masses alone.

Minister, Soviet Envoy Discuss Fishing

AB261230 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Text] Fishing and Maritime Economy Minister Mohamed Ould Sidi Aly received the Soviet ambassador yesterday morning in Nouakchott. The two sides discussed bilateral cooperation between our two countries and ways and means of strengthening it, especially in the area of fishing.

MOROCCO

Romanian Foreign Minister Pays Official Visit

LD252059 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Romanian Foreign Minister Stefan Andrei has begun his 4-day official visit to Morocco. He will attend the work of the Moroccan-Romanian Supreme Joint Committee.

Soon after arrival in Rabat the Romanian minister had a meeting with the minister of state in charge of foreign affairs, M'hamed Boucetta. They held talks dealing with bilateral relations and international issues of mutual interest.

The meeting was attended by Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Abdelhaq Tazi, the Moroccan ambassador to Romania and the Romanian ambassador to Morocco, the director of the

European desk at the Ministry of State for Foreign Affairs,and the Director of Foreign Political Affairs in Romania.

On arrival at Sala Airport the Romanian foreign minister made a statement in which he noted that his visit demonstrates the excellent relations between Morocco and Romania and the ties joining His Majesty King Hassan II and Romanian President Nicolai Ceausescu. He pointed out that he will discuss with Moroccan officials the possibility of developing these relations particularly in the educational and economic cooperation fields.

The Romanian minister was welcomed at the airport by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs M'hamed Boucetta, the Moroccan ambassador to Romania, the Romanian ambassador to Morocco and a number of other figures.

It is noteworthy that a delegation of Romanian experts is currently in Morocco to prepare documents which will be studied with the cooperation of Moroccan officials.

The third session of the Moroccan-Romanian mixed committee was held in Bucharest in September 1981 on the occasion of the official visit to Romania by the minister of state for foreign affairs.

Guinean President Meets King, Returns Home

LD231429 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Excerpts] Guinean President Ahmed Sekou Toure left Morocco this morning on his way to Conakry. He was seen of at the airport by minister of State in charge of Foreign Affairs Mr M'hamed Boucetta and Minister of Royal Household, Protocol, and Chancellory General Moulay Abdelhafid Alaoui.

President Ahmed Sekou Toure's visit was distinguished by the meeting that took place between him and his majesty the king last night at the royal palace in Skhirat, and by the discussions that took place between them. After that, the king held a private dinner banquet to honor the Guinean president.

Moroccan, Spanish Socialist Parties' Communique

LD231636 Rabat MAP in English 1218 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Text] Rabat, July 23 (MAP) — The Moroccan Socialist Union of Popular Forces (leftist opposition) and the Spanish Socialist Labour Party (in power) underlined the need to "promote a comprehensive cooperation between the two countries covering the economic, cultural and technological fields."

In a communique published Friday in Rabat after a friendship and working visit of a delegation from the Spanish Socialist Labour Party at the invitation of the Moroccan Socialist Union, the two parties specified that such a mutually beneficial cooperation will set an example for North-South cooperation.

Concerning the Middle East question, the two parties reiterated "their condemnation of the Israeli Government's aggressions against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples during the invasion of Lebanon in June 1982. They express their conviction that a just and lasting solution of the Middle East problems passes necessarily through the recognition of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, to self-rule, national independence and the application of the United Nations' pertinent resolutions concerning the Middle East."

TUNISIA

Reports on Algerian Foreign Minister's Visit

Meets Prime Minister

LD231419 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Text] Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Politburo and foreign affairs minister, had talks this morning in Tunis with Tunisian Prime Minister Mr Mohamed Mzali. The talks were attended by Mr Beji Caid es-Sebsi, Tunisian foreign affairs minister, who was permitted to review the talks between the head of Algerian diplomacy and several members of the Tunisian Government, including his Tunisian counterpart. The satisfying and positive development of Algerian-Tunisian cooperation through implementation of the various agreements and plans concluded between the two countries, in agreement with the desire of the two presidents, Chedli Bendjedid and Habib Bourguiba, was also mentioned during the talks which took place in an atmosphere of fraternity and concord. Furthermore, the two parties reviewed the international problems of joint interest. At the end of this meeting, Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi is expected to go to Montasir, where he will be received by President Habib Bourguiba.

Press Statement Issued

LD242028 Algiers APS in Arabic 1400 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Text] Tunis, 24 Jul (APS) — Following the official visit to Tunis by member of the Political Bureau and Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi 21-23 July 1983, the following Algerian-Tunisian press statement was issued:

This visit comes within the framework of the excellent relations between the two fraternal countries enshrined in the fraternity and harmony pact signed between them 19 March 1983. It is also within the framework of the continuation of dialogue and intensification of meetings between officials of the two countries in accordance with the good practice of consultation planned by the great struggler, President Habib Bourguiba, and His Excellency President Chadli Bendjedid.

Beji Caid es-Sebsi and Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi had political talks which were dominated by the spirit of fraternity and understanding, and dealt with the bilateral relations between the two fraternal countries, the situation in the Arab Mahgreb region, Arab and African issues, and the current international situation in the Mediterranean. They paid special attention to the Palestinian issue and reaffirmed their support to the just struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of its legitimate representative, the PLO, and denounced strongly the aggressive and expansionist policy practiced by the Zionist enemy. They condemned the unjust attacks of the racist regime in Pretoria against the neighboring African countries and renewed their support for the just struggle of the people of Namibia and South Africa for freedom, independence, and dignity and to crush the system of apartheid.

Regarding the Saharan issue, the two ministers stressed their commitment to finding a just and lasting solution to this problem in accordance with the African summit resolutions, especially the resolution of the 19th OAU summit.

The two ministers chaired a working session that included members of the Tunisian and Algerian delegations. The meeting discussed aspects of cooperation between the countries in all fields and means that would enhance their strength and development so that they would respond to the aspirations of the two fraternal peoples in the achievement of a better future within an integrated and coordinated Arab Maghreb as a significant and principal stage in the achievement of overall Arab unity.

The two ministers recorded their deep satisfaction at the positive and fast development of the bilateral relations in all fields since the two historic meetings in Tunis and Algiers which brought the great struggler Habib Bourguiba together with his brother His Excellency President Chedli Bendjedid, and since the meeting of the higher joint Tunisian-Algerian committee on 23 and 24 April 1983 in Algiers. They stressed the necessity to strive to continue implementing what has been agreed on in all fields. They also emphasized continuing endeavors for the establishment of close relations between the Destour Socialist Party and the FLN.

Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi expressed his profound gratitude and thanks for the great hospitality and generosity he and the delegation accompanying him have received. This was in harmony with the ties of fraternity between the Presidents Bourguiba and Bendjedid and a reflection of the strength of the excellent relations between the two brotherly peoples.

Departs Tunis

LD242341 Algiers APS in Arabic 1400 GMT 24 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Tunis, 24 Jul (APS) — Dr Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the Political Bureau and minister of foreign affairs, left Tunis this afternoon for Algiers after a 3-day official visit to Tunisia at the invitation of his Tunisian counterpart, Beji Caid es-Sebsi.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Message to Frontline States

EA232348 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Text] Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam has made it known that the people and Government of Socialist Ethiopia and the people of Africa who have been and still are carrying out a relentless struggle against colonialism and apartheid will give the highest regard to the resolutions passed by the meeting of defense and security ministers from the frontline states. Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] and of COPWE, and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Army, said this in a message he sent today to the leaders of Angola, Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

In his message, Comrade Chairman Mengistu pointed out that the meeting of defense and security ministers from the frontline states taking place in (?Zambia) made clear and won approval for its strong stand, and noted that the frontline African states have taken appropriate and timely action in the struggle against apartheid.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu recalled that, by the great sacrifices which those countries are making in intensifying the struggle against the remnants of colonialism in Africa, they are recording another chapter in the history of the liberation struggle of the oppressed people of Africa. He added that the historically decisive struggle of the oppressed masses will emerge victorious over inhuman oppression and that the sacrifices those countries are making will not be in vain.

Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam also noted that the actions taken by the terrorist Pretoria regime with the aim of destabilizing neighboring countries and weakening the liberation struggle in southern Africa through the use of armed bandits has caused grave concern not only in those countries but in revolutionary Ethiopia as well. Ethiopia denounces this type of sabotage and calls in one voice with these countries for an immediate halt to this type of activity.

He also disclosed that revolutionary Ethiopia will continue to contribute to the liberation struggle in southern Africa and will support the intensification of the struggle by South Africa's neighbors and their resolute intensification of their struggle for liberation from this regime.

In his capacity as OAU chairman, he reaffirmed to the leaders of those countries his determination to enhance the development of the liberation movement and to protect the freedom and human rights of our sisters and brothers who are suffering under the yoke of racism and apartheid. Concluding his message, Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam announced his firm belief that with our concerted and resolute efforts we will defeat our enemy, and the people of Africa who are under the yoke of colonialism will emerge victorious.

AFP: TPLF Claims Virtual Control of Province

NC251443 Paris AFP in English 1424 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Mogadishu, July 25 (AFP) — The Tigrean People's Liberation Front (TPLF) claimed here today to control 85 percent of the Ethiopian province. TPLF representative here Sa'id Musa told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that the front was currently successfully resisting a seventh Ethiopina offensive gainst it, spearheaded by 40,000 troops backed by aircraft, helicopter gunships, tanks and heavy artillery, but Tigre's inhabitants were well-mobilised to intensify their liberation fight against "Ethiopian colonialism".

Mr Musa said TPLF forces had liberated 85 percent of Tigre and were capable of striking at strategic, economic and military points of "the regime in central Ethiopia, outside Tigre".

Inhabitants in the liberated areas of Tigre convened their second congress and set up people's assemblies at sub-district level last month, Mr Musa said.

SOMALIA

Somali-Djibouti Joint Communique

EA241600 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 0700 GMT 23 Jul 83

[Joint Communique issued by Somali Democratic Republic and Republic of Djibouti at end of 4-day visit by Djibouti Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Moumin Bahdon Farah]

[Text] At the invitation of his brother Challe Dr Abdurahman Jama Barre, the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] foreign minister, His Excellency Moumin Bahdon Farah, the Djibouti minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, made an official, friendly visit to the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] 18-22 July. He and his delegation were warmly received on arrival at Mogadishu airport by Challe Dr Abdurahman Jama Barre, the SDR foreign minister, and other Foreign Ministry officials, demonstrating the close and deep-rooted fraternal ties which link the two peoples.

The talks were attended on the Djibouti side by: His Excellency Moumin Bahdon Farah, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation; Adan Shaykh Hasan, Djibouti ambassador in Jidda; Salah Umar, governor of Ali Sabih region; Dahir Ismail Kahin, director general of the national police force; Yusuf Umar Ghelle, an official from the Foreign Ministry; and Ali Abdi, acting commercial manager of Air Djibouti.

The two ministers held fruitful talks on issues relating to the Horn of Africa, a region which has a history of crisis, the Arab world, and other international questions.

The SDR side was represented by: Dr Abdurahman Jama Barre, the SDR foreign minister; Challe Hashi Abdullah Farah, director general of the Foreign Ministry; Challe Fatumah Isaq Bihi, director of African affairs at the Foreign Ministry; Challe

Mohamed Shaykh Hasan, economic director of the Foreign Ministry; Challe Abdi Awaleh Jama, director of information and public relations; Challe Sadiq Maalin Mohamud, adviser on African affairs at the Foreign Ministry; Challe Nur Hasan Loyaan, adviser on visits; and Challe Abdullahi Hirsi Isa, commercial director of Somali Airlines.

Discussing bilateral issues, the two ministers expressed satisfaction at the level of brotherly and historic relations. They stressed the need to further strengthen bilateral cooperation in trade and social affairs. The two ministers agreed to implement the agreements and pledges made by the two brotherly countries on tourist exchanges: communication and the easing of travel (?restrictions) affecting the nationals of the two countries. The relevant departments were called upon in this respect to implement the agreements and fulfill the pledges.

Concerning the crisis in the Horn of Africa, the ministers agreed on the need for a peaceful and lasting solution based on justice. They also agreed to make every effort to arrive at a just and peaceful solution capable of meeting the rights and aspirations of all peoples in the region.

The two sides expressed concern over the refugee problem, stressing the need to find a lasting solution to this problem based on peace and arrived at with the cooperation of all parties involved.

Concerning the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean, the two sides called for the maintenance of peace and security in the area as called for by the resolutions adopted by the United Nations, the Arab League, the Conference of Islamic Organizations, and the Nonaligned Movement.

On the conflict in South Africa and Namibia, the two sides expressed support for efforts aimed at achieving Namibia's independence and eradicating apartheid in South Africa.

Regarding the Middle East, the two sides expressed dismay at the state of relations among the Arab states, and called on them to forget their differences and form a united front against their enemies. They pledged their support for the Palestinian people's struggle to achieve their right to self-determination. They also called for the liberation of the holy city of Jerusalem.

On the Iraq-Iran conflict, the two sides highlighted their concern over the fratricidal war raging between the two Muslim nations and appealed to them to institute an immediate cease-fire. They also praised the efforts made by the Islamic mediation committee formed during the third summit of Islamic heads of state and the peace efforts made by the United Nations and the Nonaligned Movement.

During his stay in the SDR, His Excellency Bahdon had the opportunity to tour some of the country's regions to see for himself the level of development that has been achieved, most notably in the agricultural and industrial sectors.

The Djibouti minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, His Excellency Moumin Bahdon Farah, expressed gratitude to the president, government, and people of the SDR for the warm and cordial reception accorded him. He invited his brother, Dr Abdurahman Jama Barre, the SDR foreign minister, to pay an official visit to the Republic of Djibouti. Dr Abdurahman Jama Barre accepted the invitation and the date of the visit will be fixed later.

[Signed] Dr Abdurahman Jama Barre and His Excellency Moumin Bahdon Farah

TANZANIA

Labor Minister on Work Law Implementation

EA251248 Dar Es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 0400 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] The minister for labor and social welfare, Ndugu Alfred Tandau, has said the law stating that everybody should work will be implemented in three phases so as to ensure that mistakes made during implementation are discovered and rectified. He said the first phase will involve the jobless, vagrants, and those whose work is not adequately remunerated. The second phase will involve those whose work generates no income at all, and the third phase will involve office and factory workers.

The minister explained that under the law civic authorities will ensure that everyone is engaged in productive work. He said the regional commissioners have been directed not to put too much pressure on employees during the campaign to implement the law so that problems such as distance and the hours they are supposed to be on a farm do not affect their performance at an office or in a factory.

Ndugu Tandau said his ministry has already issued a list of acceptable activities. He said such activities included agriculture, livestock-keeping, small-scale industry, fisheries, trade, and salaried employment.

UGANDA

Opposition: People Held Without Charges

AB251700 Paris AFP in English 1526 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Kampala, July 25 (AFP) — Uganda's opposition leader Paulo Ssemogerere said in parliament today that between 200 and 300 people are being held in the Makindye and Mbuya military barracks near Kampala without detention orders or formal court charges. Mr Ssemogerere said that two members of parliament from his Democratic Party arrested last Friday were held overnight at Makindye before their release the following day. They were not held in police custody as Uganda radio reported on Saturday quoting a police statement, he said.

The two MPs, Kisamba Mugerwa and Joe Senteza, were asked to report to police headquarters in Kampala today after their release on Saturday. But police officials told them to come back tomorrow. [Words indistinct] imposed any restrictions on them.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Zaire's Mobutu Leaves Bangui for Paris

AB251130 Paris AFP in French 1006 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Bangui, 25 Jul (AFP) — Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko left Bangui on Monday at 0720 local time (0620 GMT) following a 20-minute stopover on his way to Paris, it was learned in the CAR capital on Monday. Field Marshal Mobutu was received on arrival at Bangui-Mpoko airport by CAR President Andre Kolingba accompanied by members of his cabinet.

President Mobutu will go on an official visit to the United States at the beginning of August.

PRC 20-Year Interest-Free Loan Reported

AB251630 Paris AFP in English 1524 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Bangui, July 25 (AFP) — China has given the Central African Republic a 20-year interest-free loan of [figures indistinct] million yuan (around 15 million dollars), it was announced here today in the wake of President Andre Kolingba's recent visit to Peking. The money will be used to improve the state radio network, build a 200-bed hospital and start a number of agricultural projects. In addition the Chinese Red Cross has handed over a cheque for 50,000 dollars to help drought victims.

General Kolingba also visited Pyongyang, and North Korea has responded with a gift of 30 tractors and an offer to build a new parliament building, plans of which will be ready by November.

The aid was seen here as an indication that Gen Kolingba's attempts to open up relations with the Far East had paid off, in line with his policy since coming to power in September 1981 of diversifying his country's links with the rest of the world and practising "effective non-alignment." The president is counting on help from friendly states to improve his country's economic situation, which was ruined by previous regimes, notably under Emperor Bokassa. The past few months have seen encouraging signs of economic and financial activity.

Western creditor countries decided on July 8 to reschedule Central Africa's foreign debt at a meeting in Paris of representatives from Austria, France, Italy and the United States. Observers from Britain, Japan and the International Monetary Fund noted with satisfaction that the Kolingba government had produced an economic and financial programme which had won IMF approval.

CHAD

AFP Reports U.S. Airlift, Troop Movements

AB251855 Paris AFP in English 1833 GMT 25 Jul 83

[By Jean-Claude Chapon]

[Text] Ndjamena, July 25 (AFP) — A small-scale U.S. Air Force air lift bringing aid to the Chadian Government of Hissein Habre in his fight against the Libyan-backed forces of ex-President Goukouni Oueddei coincided today with news of an imminent battle in the north of the country. As two U.S. C-141 transport planes unloaded 22 jeeps, food, and non-military material, informed sources in the capital spoke of an imminent battle in the north for the control of Faya Largeau, 1000 kms (620 miles) north of the capital. Faya Largeau fell to Mr. Goukouni's forces on June 25.

Today's airlift, by the first two of six transports, forms part of the 10 million dollars in emergency aid promised by Washington on July 20. So far it consists of logistical aid only. No ammunition are to be provided for the moment, according to an American source. Chadian Information Minister Soumaila Mahamat said at the time that the aid was "a political gesture and appreciable support" but did not mean a further internationalisation of the conflict. "The Soviet Union has armed Libya and its local agents for a long time," he said.

Western diplomatic sources have reported heavy troop movements in the north. One diplomat said that about 1,500 of the ousted former president's men were moving towards Koro Toro, 250 kms (155 miles) south of Faya Largeau to the government forces forward defence system on the road to Ndjamena. The sources said that Mr Goukouni's forces in the Faya Largeau area had been reinforced and a battery of long range guns had been spotted from the air.

Other informed Western sources said government troops were making ready for an imminenet new offensive.

Mr Soumaila said today that the front was quiet but that preparations were intensive on both sides. He claimed that the Libyans had sent three or four battalions of troops to Faya Largeau.

Observers here believe that the battle in the north could be decisive. One diplomat here said that the outcome of the war would depend on that battle.

First Transports Arrive

AB251930 Paris AFP in French 1346 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Ndjamena, July 25 (AFP) — The first of six C-141 Starlifter transports of the U.S. Air Force flew into Ndjamena today with a dozen unarmed jeeps, a water tank and a load of food ration packs. The flight followed the July 20 announcement by Washington that it was providing ten million dollars worth of aid to the Chadian Government of Hissein Habre in his fight against the Libyan-backed forces of his ousted predecessor Goukouni Oueddei.

First out of the plane were ten men in battle dress or civilian clothes, who set up a small command post to communicate directly by satellite with the Sixth Fleet cruising off Libya in the Gulf of Sidra. Knowledgeable sources said that the Americans were taking massive precautions against a very hypothetical intervention against the airlift by Libyan fighters. These included an AWACS early-warning radar aircraft on constant patrol for the three days in which six or seven Skylifters will be flying into Ndjamena, and fighters on stand-by on Sixth fleet carriers.

During the unloading time of more than an hour today the C-141 kept its four jet engines running as Chadians helped to discharge the the cargo under the eye of U.S. Ambassador to Ndjamena Peter Moffat and one of Mr Habre's special advisers, Orozi Feidebou.

The aid is for Chad but Chadian Information Minister Soumaila Mahamat said today that a proportion would go to the 1,420 troops sent by Zaire.

Announcing the aid a week ago to "stop" Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the State Department said that deliveries would consist initially of cross-country vehicles, uniforms and rations. Later consignments could include light arms and ammunition.

Of the ten million dollars half is estimated to be needed for transport if all the planes come from the United States via the Azores and Senegal. It could drop to 35 percent if some are sent from the U.S. military base at Frankfurt, West Germany, Mr Moffat said.

Foreign Minister Leaves Paris for Home

AB251134 Paris AFP in French 1000 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Paris, 25 Jul (AFP) — Chadian Foreign Affairs Minister Idriss Miskine left Paris on Monday morning for Ndjamena. Mr Miskine, who made a 48-hour stop in the French capital, has just concluded a 9-day official visit to the PRC during which he signed a protocol providing for the resumption of Chinese aid to Chad. The aid was suspended in 1979.

Bardai Asks Zairians To fight for Liberation

AB221058 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 21 Jul 83

[Text] To all Zairian patriots inside and outside the country and to all Zairian political exiles: Mobutu Sese Seko, who is illegally exercising power under the umbrella of the CIA, has turned your great and beautiful country into the gangrene of the African Continent, contrary to the fundamental principles and ideals of the OAU and of true Zairian patriots like Patrice Lumumba and Pierre Mulele, who were killed in a cowardly manner. Strengthened by the insolent wealth he has acquired at the expense of the Zairian people, the former sergeant of the Belgian colonial army who has now become a marshal and dictator is trying — (?with the support) of the United States — to destabilize Libya through an attack on Chad. [Passage indistinct]

Zairians, you must join your Chadian comrades in the fight against international imperialism! Zairians inside and outside the country, join the Chadian forces [words indistinct] to conduct the struggle to liberate our two sister nations from foreign bondage.

GUINEA-BISSAU

Vieira Receives First Cape Verde Ambassador

AB252010 Paris AFP in French 1242 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] Bissau, 25 Jul (AFP) — Antonio Lima, the first Cape Verdian ambassador to Guinea-Bissau, presented his credentials to Brigadier General Joao Bernardo Vieira, the head of state, on Saturday.

This action consolidates the normalization of relations between Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde, relations which had deteriorated following the coup d'etat of 14 November 1980. The two countries that fought for independence together within the PAIGC [African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde] had planned to unite. The coup d'etat not only disrupted that process, which was underway, but also brought about the disintegration of the PAIGC as the joint political party of the two countries. The normalization of relations between Praia and Bissau began in June 1982 during a reconciliation summit held in Maputo.

In his speech, Mr Lima noted that the designation of a Cape Verdian ambassador is an official step that consolidates the political desire expressed by the leaders of the two countries. He also emphasized the fact that the people of Cape Verde have not forgotten the important role played by the people of Guinea-Bissau in their struggle for liberation.

LIBERIA

Government Budget for 1983-84 Approved

AB252130 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1900 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] The ruling People's Redemption Council [PRC] of the Armed Forces of Liberia has approved the budget of the Liberian Government for fiscal year 1983 to 1984 in a decree issued in Monrovia today.

In Section One of the decree approving the budget, the minister of finance has been authorized under approved allotments, personnel lists, and notices and warrants of the head of state to pay the expenses of the Liberian Government from 1 July 1983 to 30 June 1984 as provided for. Touching on budgetary transfers, Decree 76 states that the finance minister has also been authorized to approve budgetary transfers between major [word indistinct] under recommendations of the director of the budget. However, the budget director can only make the transfer on the basis to secure essential items for government operations provided all such transfers shall not exceed the sum total of the budget. The decree further noted that provision of funds to purchase equipment and other supplies in the budget of the various ministries and agencies of government shall be procured by the General Services Agency. The decree took effect immediately when the head of state signed it.

Meanwhile, a total of $348.4 million have been approved by the ruling PRC as government expenditure for fiscal year 1983 to 1984. This figure reflects a deficit of $42.4 million against a projected resource level of $306 million during the period. Out of the amount, $235.4 million will account for recurrent expenditure while $113 million is expected for development. In the recurrent account, $122.5 million will be used for personnel services while $54.9 million is budgeted for county management and services. The remaining $58 million is expected to foot miscellaneous bills. The readjusted $113 million development budget reflects the reduction of the $3 million in actual costs on ongoing government development projects. The amount of $62.9 million is expected for local companies while the remaining $60 million have been appropriated for foreign components.

MALI

Traore Receives SDAR Foreign Affairs Minister

AB251600 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] General Moussa Traore received Ibrahim Hakim, foreign affairs minister of the SDAR, in a midday audience. Their meeting focused on the outcome of the 19th OAU summit held in Addis Ababa and on the situation in Western Sahara. The audience was held in the presence of Alioune Blondin Beye, our minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation.

NIGERIA

Shagari Interviewed on Foreign, Domestic Policy

AB212230 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 21 Jul 83

[Interview with Nigerian President Shehu Shagari in Lagos as part of the second round of election broadcasts organized by the Federal Radio Corporation of Nigeria, FRCN, on 21 July; participants include the moderator, Patrick Obadebey, and three panelists: Akinlode Atoyebi of FRCN Current Affairs Division, Kelvin Odjorkor of the Voice of Nigeria, and Lawal Falawa of FRCN, Kaduna — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Obadebey] Mr President, we are going to start from the domestic sector and we will like to take you on the austerity section. [as heard] Mr Atoyebi, you will like to come in here.

[Atoyebi] Mr President, [words indistinct] the federal director of projects indirectly took some measures by writing to ministries and parastatals on certain economic measures to be taken in the light of the world-wide recession that was hitting deeper into the economy. And about April of 1982, you had to address the National Assembly to solicit their support for measures that must be taken in order to ensure that Nigeria prepared for the worst in the recession. All the political parties took part in taking a unanimous decision [words indistinct] to support your move. This is an election year, and everybody seems to be criticizing the measures you have taken; and I think the measures are being criticized because people have forgotten the reason why you made an appeal to them for the support. Will you like to mention on this program the reason why you introduced the austerity measures in order to be able to stand the consequences? [as heard]

[Shagari] Thank you very much. Well, you have almost answered the question by telling the truth about what has happened because my opponents seem to suggest that it is I alone who brought in austerity. As you have already said, austerity arose out of a situation which is not peculiar to Nigeria. It is a world recession which affects every part of this world, and it affected us more simply because we are dependent upon one commodity, that is, oil. And it happened that during this recession, there is an oil glut. It is so in our situation in Nigeria and with our very ambitious program. The economic recession came at a time which was a very difficult one for us, and we had to do something about it, and this, quickly. That is why I made that move to alert the nation and to seek the consent of the representatives of the people to bring about measures to contain this situation. I explained the whole background and the reasons behind the measures to the National Assembly, and they unanimously accepted my proposals based upon the reasons that I gave to them — that under an oil economy and with the oil glut, we had to cut our coat according to size until the situation improved. And they all agreed.

At that time, there was no dissident voice. Even my opponents welcomed the proposal I put before the National Assembly. I could not remember anyone of them who criticized the austerity measures when I introduced them. They choose to criticize them now purely for political reasons, to score political points. But what they failed to do is to bring an alternative proposal. If what I have introduced was wrong, what is the alternative? I want to hear from the critics. What alternative to the austerity measures would they have introduced if they were in my position? So far, I have not heard any suggestions except unrealistic ones like allowing the free importation of everything when you have no iota of idea on how you are going to pay for the imports if you do not have the money. So, the position is clear. The oil glut and the recession brought about austerity which was supported by the entire nation through their representatives; and we have settled the matter in a very responsible manner. And we are getting results of the measures that we have taken, and the situation is improving, and we hope to get out of it within the next few months.

[Atoyebi] Mr President, considering that Nigeria has been said to be a mono-economy nation, depending as a nation solely on oil, please, what are your future plans in diversifying the economy?

[Shagari] Well, this is explained clearly in our program — the program of my party long before the economic recession. When we came in, we realized that there is danger for any nation to depend just on one commodity like we are; and we brought in our program proposals for the diversification of our economy by intensifying agriculture through our green revolution program, and that program was very well received by the people. We had to go all out to spend a lot of money and a lot of energy on the encouragement, the improvement, and the organization of our agriculture so as to be able to produce enough food and enough agricultural products because this country was an agricultural country. We were an agricultural economy before the oil came in. We want to use the oil resources to improve on our agriculture so that we will have another source like we had before. Of late, we also set up in our program an industrialization program. That is also another means of diversifying our economy. We encouraged the establishment of industries in Nigeria — heavy industry, light industry, and [words indistinct] industry, and we gave every encouragement to entrepreneurs — foreign as well as citizens.

And truly, we hope we will be able to produce a lot of products that previously we were importing, and our intention in the future is to ensure that these industries have local raw materials because the problem now is that, although we encourage industries and we are establishing more and more of them, many of them depend on imported raw material. We now want to encourage the production of raw materials locally. These and other measures will go a long way to the diversification of our economy so that we do not entirely depend on one commodity alone.

[Unidentified panelist] And well, Mr Odjorkor, I think you will like to comment here on this issue of oil.

[Odjorkor] Well, as to the oil and the economy, Mr President, sir, it has been a kind of follow-up of all the others, but what is just said about diversification sounds to me like a long-term plan. And assuming that the oil production quotas and OPEC pricing system should remain at the present level, how quickly can we look forward to recovering the economy? If you are reelected, Mr President, what will be the major economic formulation that will lead to its recovery and how can we look forward to recovering from the present austerity?

[Shagari] Well, as for the present austerity, the process of recovery is already underway. We used to have two sources of [words indistinct] acute shortages of some basic commodities. Now, as a result of our measures, there is a considerable improvement. But you have rightly spoken about long-term plans. I am more interested in the long-term plans because our long-term plans will ensure that we will guard against occurrences like that we had before on having to impose austerity measures. If you diversify your economy, if you have a strong agricultural base, if you have local industries running, you are not likely to face difficult situations like we faced before. But for the short run, we are interested in relieving the burden upon the common man [words indistinct]. We have taken measures to ensure that those items which are essential are imported in order to meet the demands of our people. But that is the short-term. The long-term one is to ensure that in the future, we do not have to import these things. We produce them here, and we are taking measures, quite different from our green revolution program, which will ensure that there is plenty of food here produced locally.

Our industries should be able to produce our basic needs locally. These are the long-term measures. In the short-term, we import what is necessary and we suspend our industries and then, step-by-step, things will improve, and we will have no cause to be worried about the dwindling of the oil market; and I believe that in a matter of a few weeks, we will be able to have enough of the essential commodities that are in short supply at present. We will have enough raw materials for our industries, and that, I am sure, will not be in more than 3 or 4 weeks.

[Unidentified panelist] Mr President, the other social and welfare section, that is, education, is a great talking point right now. Can we have a categorical statement about education? You yourself at a rally in Markudi spoke about free education. Some of your party men have continued to emphasize qualitative and some functional education. Can I have a categorical statement? Shall we, come 1 October 1983, if you are reelected, have free education at all levels in all parts of this country or what? Or is it qualitative education, or is it all of the above [words indistinct]?

[Shagari] Now let me explain. You know in 1979, our opponents, particularly the UPN [United Party of Nigeria] dwelt on free education at all levels and it seemed at the time that that was the only thing that they were interested in. They talked of free education, free education. We have seen their free education program before. The UPN is an action group, no more, no less. We have seen the action group's program of free education. We did not like that type of free education because it meant lowering our standards. So, as much as we wanted free education, we thought quality is better than quantity. And we directed our attention to improving the quality of education. That is, that was our first priority. We believe in free education, but we did not think that it was a priority. What was the priority is to have qualitative education, and we set about to ensure that our children got the proper type of education, not just half-baked education which is just literacy. In fact, some of the products of the old action group free primary education were semi-literate. That is not education. So we put up a program of improving the quality of education at all levels and we have gone a long way in that, by providing teacher training facilities, by providing science equipment to schools, by introducing a new policy on education which gives emphasis to technical education rather than just grammar school education, by establishing technical universities, or universities of technology — we built seven — and these to us in the NPN, are more important than having just everybody to get education free or whatever type of education as it is.

Now, having laid the foundation of qualitative education, we know that it costs a lot to the people concerned, and our next move is to embark on a scheme to ease the burden upon parents who send their children to these schools because there should be equal opportunity for all Nigerians to have qualitative education whether or not they can afford it. It is their right to have this education. So we thought that lack of money to pay fees should not be a constraint because that is refusing equal opportunity to our people. So this time, we say we are going to embark on a program to eliminate the payment of fees in schools at all levels.

Already it is free in primary and secondary levels. So the next thing is to go to the higher levels to reduce this burden. We know it is going to cost a lot and it may also depend upon the economic situation of the country, but we have great hope that by the time we start in the new administration the economic situation must have improved to an extent that we will be able to waive school fees at all levels. This is our promise.

[Unidentified panelist] Mr President, sir, another problem with education has been the question of the payment of teachers' salaries in the states. Now, as a former teacher yourself, would you say that primary education or grassroot education should have been more the responsibility of the Federal Government rather than the state governments which have not been able to pay teachers' salaries?

[Shagari] No, I do not think it should be the responsibility of the Federal Government. It is largely the responsibility of the local governments and the state governments. The fact that teachers are not paid does not mean that state governments should not have their responsibilities. It is their responsibility to provide education in their states and it is their responsibility to finance that education. And what I have been complaining about all along with my colleagues in the states is that they put their priorities upside down. To me, the first call on the expenditure of any government is personnel emolument, not only teachers' salaries.

[Unidentified panelist] Sir, I think we should come to the green revolution program of the present administration. I would like to ask two questions. The first one has to do with the criticism of your opponents that so much money was spent on agriculture and yet little results have been seen, and flowing from that is the debate that the Federal Government should not have involved itself in agriculture. Money should have been voted for the states to do it on behalf of the government. I want you to respond to this criticism.

[Shagari] Well, first of all, money to be voted to the states is out of the question because under our new arrangement there is no provision for grants as it used to be in the military era. Every state is autonomous; it has its own responsibilities. It has its own allocation of funds to meet its commitments and what it cannot do is not the affair of the Federal Government. I do not agree with those who say that agriculture is not a federal subject. I think it has been provided in our Constitution that the government of the federation should ensure that our people get the basic necessities of life and that is the responsibility of every government and the basic necessities of life are first and foremost — food and, of course, shelter.

Nevertheless, the states or those who say our green revolution has not made any impact, I think they are just being mischievous or ignorant, because I can forgive those who live in Lagos and have never been outside throughout Nigeria to see what is going on in this country. But when you are to go round even to the river basin authorities — we have 11 of them in this country — to see the amount of work they are doing, you will not say that the green revolution has not succeeded.

[Unidentified panelist] Mr President, sir, may I take us away for a moment from domestic issues to foreign policy? Since Africa has been the cornerstone of your administration's foreign policy, and recently you saved the OAU from collapse after two attempts at convening a summit, what steps are you and your colleagues within the OAU taking to prevent a reoccurrence of such incidents that caused the disruption of the summits of the OAU — the SDAR issue and Chad?

[Shagari] The OAU story is a long one, but I am very happy that Nigeria has taken a positive role in saving the OAU. This has been acknowledged by all leaders of Africa, some by even personal letters of appreciation have written to me to show that the role Nigeria has played to save the OAU has been phenomenal. I am very happy about that. It gives me a great deal of satisfaction and urges me to do more.

You said what we are doing to prevent an reoccurrence: I think through this experience we have learned our lessons; I mean, Africa has learned its lessons, and I don't think that we should allow ourselves to be in such a quagmire as we found ourselves in the last 2 years. The problems of the OAU were caused by the issue of Western Sahara, the issue of Chad. The issue of Western Sahara is singular, but the remedy to it is to press on before another OAU summit to ensure that Morocco as well as the Sahara and their allies accept the referendum that was agreed by the OAU. If a referendum is conducted in the territory and the people choose for themselves to be sovereign and independent, that solves the problem. If they don't choose, whatever they choose, it's their own right to do so. It is as simple as that, but in practice it is not simple because Morocco still is not quite prepared to go along with the OAU, although they have accepted OAU resolutions. What remains is diplomacy, persuasion which subtly we are applying and we do hope that through this we are going to succeed.

In the Chad issue, the situation also is still explosive, but again, we are making efforts to bring about peace in Chad. The others are not very difficult because there is consensus, that is, on the question of Namibian independence, our fight against apartheid, and the issue of the Horn of Africa is another one which requires urgent attention; but I assure you that we are sparing no effort in pursuing these burning issues in Africa with a view to finding a solution.

[Unidentified panelist] Mr President, we have talked so much about the programs of your party and the measures you have taken in the last 4 years or so, but I think before we conclude this program it is only necessary, sir, that we ask you to talk to the electorate, the masses, the people who are going to vote. What are the specific plans, in summary, of what you want to do for them in case you are reelected?

[Shagari] Well, what we have said is clearly defined in our manifesto and it is quite simple. Our party, as our motto says, stands for "one nation, one destiny." What every voter should realize is that we are in a period in which all hands must be on deck to ensure the survival of democracy in Nigeria. We have started on this new experiment on a presidential system of government. We are proud of being the greatest democracy in Africa and perhaps third or fourth in the world. We want our people to help us to maintain democracy and we can only do that if everybody joins us in nation-building, in bringing about peace in this country because it is basic. We have to have peace before we can have development. That is what we are pursuing very vigorously in our party, and we have made considerable success. We want Nigerians to help us consolidate this position so that democracy stands firmly on the ground in Africa, not just in Nigeria, because we want to set examples for the rest of Africa to follow. We can only do that if we follow the principles which are laid down in the manifesto of our party which seeks to bring all Nigerians together, which seeks to give equal opportunities to all Nigerians in order to participate in nation-building.

It is a very exciting moment in our history when we are given the chance to prove that Nigeria is capable of leading Africa. Once we are agreed on that, all other things will follow. We are not interested in all this rancor and bitterness which is being perpetuated by some of our opponents. We want peace in this country. We want democracy. That is what we mean by one destiny.

We all have a stake in the unity and progress of this country and we can only do it if we follow the guidelines set up in the NPN [National Party of Nigeria] manifesto and program, which stipulates that Nigerians must forget their differences. There must not be any enmity, ethnic or religious differences which will cause rancor between our peoples. We are out to promote this, to build a new Nigeria where everybody will be proud to call himself a Nigerian, to have a sense of belonging.

This is the basic motto in our program. As I say, all other things follow: self-sufficiency in building a strong, virile nation and we can only build it under a condition of peace and unity and, at last, you can only build it if you bring our programs that will make you independent, truly independent, economically independent, with all the potentials of being truly independent, and this is the cause we are pursuing, and we seek the support of every Nigerian in this noble cause.

ANGOLA

UNITA Forces Kill 58 Soldiers, Capture Sautar

OW260506 Hong Kong AFP in English 0456 GMT 26 Jul 83

[Text] Lisbon, July 26 (AFP) — Angola's South African backed UNITA rebel movement claimed Monday it killed 58 government troops last Saturday as it recaptured the town of Sautar, in southern Malange Province.

In a communique here, UNITA said three of its own forces were killed and two government soldiers were taken prisoner.

LESOTHO

Minister Comments on Relations With South Africa

MB251421 Johannesburg Rand Daily Mail in English 25 Jul 83 p 9

["Exclusive Interview" with Desmond Sixishe, Lesotho minister of information and broadcasting, with correspondent Norman Chandler — date and place not given]

[Text] In a wide-ranging interview — the first by a top Lesotho minister since it was decided five weeks ago not to speak to any South African newspaper because of claims that reports were not balanced — Mr Desmond Sixishe, Lesotho minister for information and broadcasting, was asked if he knew what South Africa wanted of Lesotho.

He replied: "I think firstly we can only say we know what they want from their statements over a period of time — the removal of African National Congress bases here. We have no ANC bases and have no intention of having them here. Our original agreement — an unwritten agreement — with South Africa since independence was that we would never allow our territories to be used for subversive activities against each other."

Other questions were:

The economic and employment blockade of Lesotho must be causing great concern. Is there any alternative plan to overcome the situation?"

Mr Sixishe: "It is certainly hurting our economy. There are specific areas which are hard hit, particularly in the fields of food and medicine. Medical supplies are very hard hit as we depend very much on South Africa for these supplies.

"As far as jobs are concerned, I do not think there will be a serious backlash." He said the Basotho nation had a "stoic understanding" of the situation. "The Basotho people are taking a historical attitude to what is happening...they are turning back and looking at our history with South Africa. Certainly being turned back at the border has a certain amount of indignity about it, but the Basotho have long realised that South Africa is the 'natural enemy' of Lesotho, and so they are prepared for anything.

"Economically, it is incumbent upon our government to assure there are alternative means of survival. We are exploring the alternatives, but I want to re-state that we would like to sort out the whole matter with South Africa."

When Lesotho sought diplomatic relations with communist states, was South Africa's reaction foreseen?

Mr Sixishe: "I do not think that when we establish diplomatic relations with another state we need anticipate the reaction of another sovereign state. It is a matter for us, and us alone. It is our sovereign right. I do not think South Africa should interfere with us. I do not think that the question of communist bloc countries opening embassies here should be that important...after all, there are communist embassies in Botswana. If South Africa is that concerned about it, then they should be strangling Botswana economically just as they are strangling us.

"We believe South Africa wants something else — it appears they are determined to subdue the Basotho as a nation and make them surrogates of South Africa."

Will Lesotho ask for military advisers from communist states such as North Korea?

Mr Sixishe: "We have British military advisers and we have not asked the Russians or the North Koreans to supply such advisers. All that has been asked of the Koreans and the Communist Chinese is that they strengthen our agricultural programme, while we have asked the Russians to undertake mineral surveys. However, if we felt that we wanted to strengthen our defences — we have no intention of attacking anyone; we have every intention of protecting ourselves from outside attack — then we can ask whoever we wish to send military advisers if we think it is necessary for the maintenance of our internal security."

Mr Sixishe disclosed that armaments from Britain had been landed at Durban harbour three months ago but that the South African Government had refused to allow their onward journey to Maseru. "We have been asking South Africa, literally every day, to release these arms. They are needed for a variety of reasons, particularly to meet the challenge of the Lesotho Liberation Army. "We have a customs union" — and "within the rules of that union" there was no way South Africa could hold arms imported by Lesotho, he said. He also revealed for the first time that South Africa had told his government that airfreighting of armaments to Maseru was unacceptable. Mr Sixishe declined to comment further on this, except to say: "We don't want to be turned into a nation of smugglers...."

The Lesotho Government has also been making representations to South Africa for the release of Private Maselela, of the Para-Military Force, who was captured by a South African patrol in the remote Mononts's district of the Drakensberg Mountains on July 11. His arrest, which followed on the arrest by Lesotho of Warrant Officer D.T. Sello on June 12, has been the subject of several inter-government notes. Mr Sixishe said that on July 17 the Lesotho Government told South Africa that Pte Maselela had been on normal border duty when "invited to have a chat with a South African patrol...it is a regular practice for patrols to chat to each other. He was invited on to South African territory and during the conversation was asked whether he was carrying arms. Private Maselela showed his rifle to the South Africans in good faith. He was then arrested."

Lesotho has told South Africa that it "has happened before that Lesotho has released South African patrols found in Lesotho, as well as their arms, and has also redirected patrols who have strayed across the unmarked border."

The Lesotho Government has been ordered by the High Court in Maseru to produce W/O Sello in court by August 9 to show cause why he should not be released. He was arrested on June 12.

W/O Sello is the coach of the Bantu Football Club of Mafeteng, though he is a South African policeman based at Ficksburg.

The South African director-general of foreign affairs and information, Mr J. van Dalsen, yesterday said he had no comment to make on these allegations.

U.S., UK Play Role

MB251446 Johannesburg Rand Daily Mail in English 25 Jul 83 p 1

[By Norman Chandler]

[Excerpts] Maseru — Britian and the United States have tried, unsuccessfully, to patch up differences between South Africa and Lesotho, the *Rand Daily Mail* was told exclusively here yesterday.

It is the first time that two other nations have interceded in the continuing row between the two countries, caused by South Africa's assertion that Lesotho is harbouring bases of the African National Congress. This has been denied by Lesotho.

The dramatic behind-the-scenes attempts to normalise links between the two countries were spelled out by Mr Desmond Sixishe, Lesotho's minister for information and broadcasting, who was speaking to the *Mail* on behalf of Chief Jonathan.

"When countries get to the stage when one refuses to talk to the other, then things are at their lowest ebb.

"Yes, there have been behind-the-scenes diplomatic activity — telephonic, telex and letters requesting that we should speak have been shuttling back and forth. In the last fortnight alone, there have been six messages requesting talks with South Africa. The last attempt was made on July 17, 1983, by the permanent secretary for foreign affairs, Mr Tom Thabane."

The *Rand Daily Mail* was shown copies of confidential documents clearly indicating the secret moves to improve the situation.

Mr Sixishe said Lesotho believed there was no substitute for talks. "We are hopeful of success in our efforts to speak to South Africa, and we have used the United Kingdom and the United States in an attempt to get South Africa to talk to us. The results have been negative....South Africa has shown quite clearly that it is not prepared to be pressured."

MADAGASCAR

Ratsiraka Meets EEC Development Commissioner

MB221619 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 1030 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Excerpt] Our top story in this newscast is the lightning visit which Mr Edgard Pisani, European development commissioner, made here yesterday. Mr Pisani's stay was dominated by an afternoon meeting with President Didier Ratsiraka and by the signing of a convention on a new contribution [words indistinct].

The European development commissioner left the Malagasy capital yesterday afternoon, and, at Ivato Airport, reviewed his visit with our correspondent.

[Begin recording] To begin with, I would like to once again voice my regrets at not being able to stay any longer in Madagascar. I was, however, faced with the choice of either staying here for 24 hours or delaying the visit for some months. I found that it was not necessary to delay it.

After a day's stay here, I regret not having come to Madagascar much earlier, because Madagascar is a country which is fascinating in many ways. [Words indistinct] agricultural problems are at the heart of the Malagasy situation. A number of problems are equally significant. This country's importation of (?equipment) is critical, in as much as the nation's productive capability is considerable.

The evolution of government policy shows [words indistinct] that Madagascar is well on the way not only toward achieving self-sufficiency in food within the next few years, but actually being able to export [words indistinct]. This is not without its significance. It is very important for Madagascar because to import means to lose foreign exchange while to export means to earn foreign exchange. It is important in this region of the world because the population of Africa is growing by leaps and bounds. The imbalance in African food supplies will increase with each passing year. It is within this context that the policy assumes its importance.

In addition to the food issue, I also reviewed the problem of animal husbandry and the problem of fisheries. These are two completely complementary matters. They can contribute to the diet [words indistinct]. We also conducted a broad discussion relating to the country's subsoil resources. Madagascar has coal, bauxite, [words indistinct]. Madagascar has uranium, [words indistinct], and undoubtedly, oil. This fact alone raises the need for a huge amount of funds for investment. [end recording]

MALAWI

New Community Services Ministry Created

MB251628 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] His excellency the life president, Ngwazi Dr Kamuzu Banda, has created a new Ministry of Community Services and appointed Mr (George Apawaka Kandawire) as minister. This was announced today by a spokesman of the Office of the President and Cabinet in Lilongwe. The spokesman added that Mr (George Apawaka Kandawire's) appointment was with effect from today.

MOZAMBIQUE

Political Bureau To Grant High Military Ranks

MB221317 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Text] The Frelimo Party Political Bureau has the authority to confer the military ranks of field marshal, general, and admiral. These powers are conferred to that body by Law 6/83 approved by the Permanent Commission of the People's Assembly. The new law states that granting of the military ranks of general and admiral should be made after a recommendation by the Military Council.

RNM Describes Military Situation 22 July

MB231131 (Clandestine) Voice of Mozambique National Resistance in Portuguese 1700 GMT 22 Jul 83

["Briefing on the country's military situation" by Raul Domingos, chief of general staff of the Mozambique National Resistance forces — live]

[Text] I would like to greet all Mozambican compatriots from Rovuma to Maputo, particularly the fighters of the Mozambique National Resistance [RNM].

To start with, I wish to inform all Mozambicans that at this moment the war being waged by the RNM covers almost the whole country, that is, from Nampula to the Moamba parallel in the south. I would also like to mention that road, railway, and telephone communications are seriously affected nationwide and, as such, are under the control of the RNM. The only alternative left to Frelimo now is to use military columns to travel on the main national roads. Such columns are protected by Soviet tanks, combat vehicles, and other foreign forces. I also want to tell you that in all RNM operational areas we control the people and much of the territory. In our areas we are implementing agricultural schemes and various other infrastructures, namely health, primary schools, and political training centers. In these areas children in particular and the population in general have the freedom of traditional and religious worship.

Today, we are going through a stage of enlarging the liberated and operational areas. The biggest difficulty we have had during this stage are the so-called communal villages, which have been used by the regime's forces to protect their own interests. In other words, when Frelimo wishes to establish one of its positions in one of our operational areas it systematically uses the local population as a shield. Due to this situation we are in the process of liberating more people who are concentrated in the communal villages.

I would like to report that Frelimo forces have been comitting a large number of crimes against local populations, namely forcing them to move into communal villages to act as shields and massacring those who refuse to follow suit, summarily executing people by firing squad, by burning villages, and by poisoning water holes and lagoons normally used by the people who refuse to move into communal villages.

Many foreign troops are greatly involved throughout the country in bolstering the regime, whose fall is almost imminent. There are more and more Russians, Zimbabweans, Zambians, Cubans, and Tanzanians. Botswana troops are involving themselves at this moment.

Since the beginning of this year Frelimo forces have tried to launch many offensives from the north to the south of the country. However, all these offensives have resulted in failure. More offensives are being planned right now, but we can immediately and catergorically state that they are doomed to failure.

In conclusion we can say that Frelimo is weak and is simply fighting as a mercenary force which protects Russian and Cuban interests, as they plunder the Mozambican people and their interests. The RNM, on the other hand, is strong and defends the interests of the people and is made up of the Mozambican people themselves.

We will now analyze the situation in each province.

In Nampula Province, at this moment operations are taking place 50 km from Nampula City, the provincial capital. Intense fighting is in progress, particularly in Metolo, Nametil, Ribaue, (Mustafa), Alto Ligonha, and Murrupula. Frelimo forces have been taken by surprise, and as a result they are fighting among themselves. Morale among Frelimo troops is so low that even in small clashes they retreat and abandon their equipment, which is then captured by the local people or by our forces.

We opened the Nampula front early this year, and we started by mobilizing the local pupulation. This frightened the Frelimo forces, who immediately launched reconnaissance operations and attacks against our forces. These operations also involved Russians, Cubans, and Zimbabweans and Tanzanians, right from the beginning. Aerial reconnaissance was conducted by Frelimo over our areas. Despite all these sophisticated measures, the enemy has failed to prevent our forces from moving to new areas and mobilizing the local population. Our forces have been causing serious problems for the enemy in Nampula Province.

In Zambizia Province, we control a number of areas, including the communication routes between the provincial capital and the various districts. We also control the communication routes between Zambezia and Nampula Provinces.

Tea production at Cha, Tacuane, and Gurue estates has been reduced due to our activities. The capital of Mocuba District is isolated from the rest of Zambezia Province. Several economic and industrial sectors have reduced their activities. Milange and Morrumbala districts are under our control.

In Tete Province, communications facilities between Tete and Zambia have been seriously affected, and this has led to the involvement of Zambian troops in this part of the country. The Angonia region, which produces potatoes and other goods for many parts of our country, apart from being the Tete provincial breadbasket, is also isolated from the remaining areas of the province. The Moatize mines, which daily used to deliver about 500 tons of coal to the port of Beira, from where the coal was then exported to the GDR, have stopped production due to operations by our forces on the Moatize-Beira railway line.

In Manica and Sofala Provinces, the railway line between the port of Beira and Machipanda is under our control. The power lines of the Revue station, linking Beira to Chimoio, are under our control. Many people live in liberated areas under our control. Some villages and townships have been isolated and destroyed. In the central part of the country many villages and towns are only able to survive thanks to airdrops and heavily armed columns supported by Soviet tanks. We can mention Canxixe, and Macossa, Ihaminga, Vila Aiva, Maringue, and Inhamitanga as areas which are under our control.

The city of Beira, which is the provincial capital of Sofala, also feels the isolation because of the operations conducted by our forces. Recently, Soviet-made Antonov planes landed in Beira. They carried a variety of military equipment and foreign troops from the country's capital. Operations by our forces are already being felt in Beira suburbs, namely Manga, Inhamizua, Mobeira, Ihnangau, and Savane.

Chimoio is also feeling isolated. The Textafrica Textile Factory has almost come to a standstill due to cuts in the Revue-Inchope power lines. The Revue-Inchope road is now heavily patrolled by Tanzanian, Zimbabwean, and Botswana forces. Traffic on national road No. 1 is only possible with the aid of strong military columns.

Frelimo has been trying to create difficulties for us by infiltrating troops and supplies from Zimbabwe. Since all the communication routes are under our control, the enemy has been using Zizmbabwe to infiltrate its forces and highly sophisticated war materiel. However, in the face of this situation, our forces have been able to react, inflicting a heavy blow against all such plans. We can add that the areas in the Sussundenga and Mossurize districts which border Zimbabwe are under our control.

Due to our operations in the region, the Buzi Sugar Factory has reduced its production by 50 percent.

In Inhambane Province the railway line linking the provincial capital, Inhambane, to Inharrime has been cut. National road No. 1 is almost completely blocked, and traffic there can pass only with the support of strong military columns backed by tanks and armored vehicles. Telephone lines have been completely cut and disrupted. Frelimo has been trying to protect traffic along the national road, but in view of the resistance by our forces, this has been almost impossible.

Since the beginning of this year a number of positions have been attacked and destroyed by our forces, namely at Jangamo, Vilanculos, Panda, Homoine, Mabote, Morrumbene, Massinga, Funhalouro, and recently at Mapinhane. We have also destroyed Chugubo, which was temporarily occupied by our forces. An enemy offensive supported by forces from Mabote was about to be launched from Chigubo. However, it was recently thwarted by our forces.

We have information that in Inhambane the enemy received 21 Antonov planes carrying war materiel and foreign troops. We are able to say that we are awaiting the offensive and that it will fail.

In Gaza Province, the enemy has been trying to resist us and to alienate the local population from us, but without success. They have made use of the old tactic of rounding up the local population and sending them into communal villages, to be used as a shield. Because the people are resisting, the enemy has been poisoning water holes and lagoons to force them to leave their areas and move into communal villages. In carrying out such actions the enemy disregards human lives, and since the beginning of this year hundreds of people have died, thousands of head of cattle have disappeared, a number of houses have been destroyed, and the local people have been indiscriminately murdered.

The railway line linking Maputo to Zimbabwe is under our control in the Canicado-Malvernia area. Telephone communications have been completely destroyed. The town of Chibuto, which is the provincial military headquarters, is isolated from the units which operate from that town. Recently, the enemy forces at Chibuto were reinforced with North Korean forces in order to cope with the situation. However, our forces are confident that this measure will fail.

In Maputo Province, we have semiliberated areas, and some other areas have actually been liberated. The Magude-Moamba railway line is seriously affected, and we are aware that Frelimo will deploy a company of Cubans to protect the line.

At this moment our activity is already being felt in the areas surrounding Moamba, thus seriously affecting all railway and road communications. I would like to mention that the railway line linking Maputo to Zimbabwe in the Moamba-Magude stretch is only operating at 10 percent capacity.

The people of Maputo are on our side. Frelimo has been finding it difficult to attack our bases because the local people have not been providing the necessary support. As part of its rataliatory actions against the local population, Frelimo has been burning houses, killing people, and destroying their property. A number of roads are under the control of our forces, namely the Massingir-Chokwe, Mapulanguene-Macaene, Chokwe-Magude, and Magude-Moamba roads.

We have disrupted the roads from Mapulanguene to Panjane, from Mahel to Panjane, from Motaze to Mahel, and from Mgude to Matutuine. They have been disrupted as a result of ambushes staged and mines set by our forces.

Finally, the scope of the our forces' operations have reflected our growing operational capability over the last 6 months. This is since the beginning of this year. In the operations that our forces have carried out over the past 6 months, we have destroyed about 256 vehicles and killed 683 Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique soldiers, including some Tanzanian, Zimbabwean, Cuban, and other military advisers and officers.

RNM Radio Cites Frelimo Losses, 'Crimes'

MB240803 (Clandestine) Voice of Mozambique National Resistance in Portuguese 1700 GMT 23 Jul 83

["War communique on the situation in the country" issued by the "headquarters of the chief of the General Staff"; date not given]

[Text] A. The Machel regime's army continues to disintegrate. In Nampula Province, on 26 May 1983 at about 1800, in the (Matuni) area close to one of our bases, the Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique [FPLM] clashed among themselves, resulting in the death of five men of the Maputo forces; countless men were injured. On the following day our soldiers inspected the area and collected six AK-47 rifles, one RPD rifle, one case of AK-47 ammunition, and other war equipment.

In Zambezia Province on 5 May two FPLM units clashed among themselves near (Munigeba), resulting in the death of many soldiers of the Machel regime.

In Sofala Province in April this year, two detachments of Frelimo troops had gathered at Sungue, near (Mumaca). The two detachments clashed, resulting in severe loss to the two enemy detachments.

B. Crimes against the people by Frelimo have escalated. In Tete Province, Frelimo murdered a member of the general public, [name indistinct], under the pretext that he was a sympathizer of the guerrillas. In the wake of this crime, elements of the local population in a number of locations of Mutarara district fled from Frelimo. In Zambezia, members of the public have been executed by the Frelimo troops in the (Caiavo) area, Quelimane. In Manica, in the (Muati) area, 12 members of the public were executed by a Frelimo firing squad. In Fatazona, six members of the public were executed by the FPLM gangsters for refusing to join the Machaze communal village. In Sofala Province the FPLM also burned down houses of members of the public. The latest actions of this kind took place at (Quito). In the area of Nhambaua Maputo troops burned down houses of members of the public. Frelimo has been intensifying its terrorist campaign by laying anti-personnel landmines on tracks used by members of the public. Such actions have been taking place throughout the Province of Sofala. People of Savane and Nharingue were among the latest victims of these criminal actions. Also, in the areas of [words indistinct] the enemy executed 45 members of the public by firing squad solely under the pretext of collaborating with the guerrillas.

In Inhambane on 27 May our forces received more members of the public who were seeking our protection. They were coming from (Sumane), fleeing the terror campaign by the (?bloodthirsty criminals).

War against the enemies of the people, and death to them. The struggle continues.

Correction to Repatriation of Foreigners

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Illegal Resident Foreigners To Be Repatriated," published in the 22 July Middle East and Africa *Daily Report*, page U 3, twelfth paragraph, lines five through seven:

...The newspaper *Noticias*, quoting a source from the National Immigration Directorate, pointed out that some of these foreigners have been in Mozambique for many years without bothering to legalize their residence here...(supplying dropped lines).

NAMIBIA

Nujoma Criticizes Reagan's Africa Policy

MB221143 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1010 GMT 22 Jul 83

[Text] Harare, July 22, SAPA — The SWA/Namibian dispute was the direct responsibility of the United Nations and the Western Contact Group should not be allowed to delay the independence of the territory, the president of SWAPO, Mr Sam Nujoma, said in an interview published today.

Mr Nujoma, who arrived in Harare on Monday, said that the insistence by the contact group negotiating a settlement of the dispute and South Africa that Cuban troops in Angola should be withdrawn before elections in SWA/Namibia cearly showed the intention of the group to delay independence.

"The presence of Cuban troops in Angola has nothing to do with the independence of Namibia at all. What we are demanding is what is ours by right and there should be no preconditions for us."

The SWAPO leader held talks with the prime minsiter, Mr Robert Mugabe, yesterday morning before leaving for Lusaka.

Mr Nujoma reiterated his organisation's stand on UN Security Council Resolution 435 and called on the world body to ignore the contact group and implement the resolution as quickly as possible.

"We will not back down on our stand regarding Resolution 435 which was agreed upon by the UN and all progressive forces of the world as the only way of attaining peace in our motherland."

He criticised the United States Government for "undermining the UN efforts to resolve the Namibian question by bringing in issues not related to our dispute with the South African racist regime.

"The Reagan administration is engaged in all sorts of tricks to reverse the trend of events in Namibia: ... they continue to bring up proposals that are aimed at protecting the interests of the minority.

"This is unacceptable to us. We want a Namibia where everyone is protected — not just a small group of people."

He said his organisation was dismayed by the attitude of the Reagan administration in its support for Pretoria's condition that Cuban troops should be withdrawn from Angola before elections were held.

"We have condemned and rejected this proposal. The machinations of the United States Government clearly show their desire to hijack the question of Namibian independence from the UN."

The Reagan administration was not playing a positive role in the "decolonisation process of Namibia;" it was siding with the "racist regime which has been condemned by the whole world."

SOUTH AFRICA

Union Leader To Head Cape Democratic Front

MB251016 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] A United Democratic Front [UDF] has been established for the western Cape region. People representing 25 youth, unity, women, and community organizations were present at the launch of the UDF at a meeting in Cape Town yesterday. Veteran trade union leader Oscar Mpetha was elected president. Mpetha was recently sentenced to 5 years in jail after being convicted under the Terrorism Act. He is now out on bail pending an appeal. Mpetha told the meeting that the only way to fight against the government's constitutional proposals was on a united basis.

Freed Mercenary: Others Involved in Coup

MB241024 Johannesburg Sunday Times in English 24 Jul 83 p 1

[Excerpts] The blundering "dogs of war" limped home yesterday amid new claims that top political and business figures in South Africa and overseas were involved in the Seychelles coup fiasco.

Jerry Puren, a chief architect of the abortive November, 1981, coup, said yesterday that powerful vested interests were behind the operation aimed at toppling Socialist President Albert Rene. He refused to identify the mystery men, but said they were still "in jeopardy". Puren, who plans to spill the beans in a book on the Seychelles affair, said liaison with certain intelligence agencies had accompanied planning of the coup attempt mounted by the well-armed bunch of beer-swilling mercenaries recruited in South Africa.

Apart from coup leader Mike Hoare, Jerry Puren is the only other person who had detailed knowledge of the financing and planning of the venture.

Another key figure in the invasion attempt, self-confessed South African spy Martin Dolincheck, faces an uncertain future now that he is home. Asked if he still considered himself a member of the national intelligence service, he replied: "Your guess is as good as mine."

At Jan Smuts Airport yesterday, a tearful welcome from family and friends awaited the six freed mercenaries — South Africans Martin Dolincheck, Jerry Puren, and Robert Sims; ex-Rhodesian Aubrey Brooks; and Britons Roger England and Bernard Carey.

Brooks is resident in South Africa but the two Britons were given special permission to stay in the country for only 14 days.

Puren, an ex-Congo fighter, said big business interests had thrown their weight behind former President Robert Mancham in his unsuccessful bid to oust President Albert. "There are things which cannot yet be revealed. People are still in jeopardy," he said.

The mercenary leader — described during the Maritzburg Air India hijack trial as "Mr X" — branded the 15-year South African prison sentence meted out to his co-conspirator, Mike Hoare, as "unfair".

In the middle of their detention another abortive coup — this time involving Seychellois — took place. The mercenaries were offered a fleeting apparition of freedom by the rebels — if they agreed to help topple Rene. The mercenaries refused. Partly in consideration of that action President Albert Rene announced on Friday the pardon and release of the men.

Now Puren talks enthusiastically of the man he once tried to topple by violence. "There can be only one president and that is Albert Rene." He says that he had misgauged the mood of the people prior to the coup, but added that the coup could have succeeded if certain errors had not been made.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Tells RSA Abandon Apartheid, Join SADCC

MB251941 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] President Kaunda directed the party National Council today to take into account the present critical economic situation and the austerity government measures aimed at restructuring the national economy, while considering policies for the 1985-1995 decade. Opening the National Council meeting at Mulungushi Hall, Dr Kaunda urged councillors who will consider the draft plans for the 1985-1995 decade to bear in mind that the aim of the party was to improve the quality of life through the socialization of the economy.

President Kaunda conceded that some of the conditions imposed on the nation by the International Monetary Fund and accepted by the government are not successful for the country. The president pointed out, however, that Zambia had no choice but to turn to the International Monetary Fund to stave the huge foreign debt with no foreign exchange reserves this year.

Opening the second extraordinary UNIP [United National Independence Party] National Council meeting at Mulungushi Hall today, Dr Kaunda said the situation had reached a point where the country was faced with being [words indistinct]. In the same address, President Kaunda urged South African leaders to abandon their government's apartheid policy and join the rest of southern Africa in the economic cooperative. He said the people of all races in South Africa should be integrated into the communities that will make up the Southern African Development Coordination Conference [SADCC] and Preferential Trade Area [PTA]. The president noted that South Africa could play a vital role in the development of the southern African subcontinent. He emphasized the personal [word indistinct] integration could be possible, only, if the racist republic abandoned its apartheid policy and allowed one man, one vote elections.

ZIMBABWE

Minister Objects to 'Independent' Candidates

MB251228 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] The minister of legal and parliamentary affairs, Comrade Eddison Zvobgo, says ZANU-PF members should not stand as independents in district or urban council elections. Comrade Zvobgo was addressing a rally at Macheke stadium in (Maswingo) yesterday. He said there is information that some party members were using the ZANU-PF ticket to stand as independents, which is an unacceptable state of affairs.

The minister declared that there is no independent ZANU-PF candidate, and as such those people who no longer represent the wishes of the people will be left by the wayside. He advised those chosen to positions of authority to regard their leadership as a relay race, saying the party will disown leaders who misuse their authority. Comrade Zvobgo called on the people in (Maswingo) to attend the party's provincial congress to be held on the 7th of next month.

Addressing the same rally, the minister of health, Comrade Oliver Munyaradzi said the party does not have any transport atprovincial level. He called on branches at district level to start raising funds for transport in the province. The minister of education and culture, Comrade Dzingai Mtumbuka, also addressed the rally.

Minister Calls for Changes in Police, Laws

MB251821 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 25 Jul 83

[Text] The minister of home affairs, Comrade Herbert Ushewokunze, says the Zimbabwe Republic Police have not transformed enough since the country attained independence in 1980. In a speech read on his behalf by his deputy secretary, Comrade (James Chibweliyeri), at a police seminar at the University of Zimbabwe today, the minister said the police still followed practices that existed during the colonial period.

Comrade Ushewokunze said the Police Act, regulations, and standing orders that define how the police force is supposed to behave, have not been changed. Comrade Ushewokunze told the delegates that fascist laws on bail still exist, adding that 60 percent of the people who were arrested in Zimbabwe awaited trial in prison and not on bail. He said it is the duty of the police to investigate ways and means of seeing that justice is done to the poor, who cannot afford legal fees.

Comrade Ushewokunze asked the seminar to consider developing a police force that will advance and defend the interests of the poor. The minister said the police should adhere to socialist legality and become agents of change in the interests of the masses. He said the colonial police disregarded the rule of law and defended the ruling class and the status quo.Comrade Ushewokunze stressed the need to have a people's police force that would march in a new democractic state, embracing socialism.